

rectors of the "Home" is without a shadow of foundation, but is made in the same spirit as the other falsehoods. That is, knowing the prejudice that has prevailed against the Church, it is thought that the alleged opposition of the Church will still be an inducement for Congress to perpetuate the "Home." It is very small business and not creditable to "Christians" in an effort to keep up a concern that is little more than a vain pretence. We do not think it will avail anything this time. "Conditions have changed."

As to the effects of the "Home" on the polygamy question, they have been nil. It has not been even a "reflection" upon the matter. It has had no more to do with it than with the sugar bounty or the tariff. It was a "fad" in the start, it has been a mockery ever since. We had no objection to the building at any time. The money spent found some employment for labor here and did that much good. What we opposed was the falsehood used to get the money. And what we are opposed to now is the falsehood told to keep up the supply.

We are not particular as to the purpose to which the costly building shall be put in future. But we hope it will be diverted to some use that will be consistent and for the public benefit, and the sooner something sensible is done about it the better it will be for all parties concerned.

A LABOR STRIKE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

THE strike of coal miners of England and Wales is now in full blast. Its proportions are gigantic. Three hundred and fifty thousand miners are out. The results of this step are far-reaching and disastrous to the business of that country. Other industries are blocked by it, as manufacturers are either unable to get coal with which to run their furnaces and machinery, or are unable to pay the high prices now charged for the article.

In consequence of this situation two hundred thousand workmen of different classes besides the miners, are thrown out of employment, and hereby deprived of the means of livelihood. When the fact is taken into consideration that a very large proportion of this great mass of unemployed men are the heads of families, the breadth and depth of the distress into which probably a couple of millions of people are plunged may be partly imagined. To this scope of the situation may be added the suffering occasioned among all classes of the poor, because of the difficulty, and, in scores of thousands of cases, the practical impossibility of their obtaining fuel at the present rates.

The object of the strike—the cause of this tremendous disaster—is to reduce the output of coal in order to give the mine owners no excuse for reducing wages. This movement has both a senseless and an inhuman aspect. The latter feature of it consists of the bringing of untold and incalculable hardship and misery upon an immense aggregation of human beings for the attainment of a selfish object. The senselessness of the step is indicated by the fact that

no profit can possibly result to those who are the active participants. In the first place the strikers are losing every day they are out, the loss in this respect being probably much greater than would have ensued by a limited reduction of wages. Then there are the facilities which must inevitably be employed to obtain coal supplies from outside sources. Already contracts are entered into with mine owners of Belgium and France to ship coal to England. Thus the hope of diminishing the output so as to keep up prices of the English article is partially dissipated. Foreign miners are employed to meet the demands of the English market, while British workmen are going around with their hands in their otherwise empty pockets, while their stomachs are likewise afflicted with vacuity.

It is threatened that the strikers and their sympathizers will attempt to prevent the unloading of foreign coal at the docks. If this threat is carried out matters will only be made worse. Such an attempt in a country which has tremendous facilities for quelling popular disturbances, and which is not, as a rule, slow to utilize them, is exceedingly dangerous. Indeed the present crisis would, in such case, justify prompt action on the part of the authorities, as the distress precipitated by the strike of the miners must be relieved from some source.

This great movement in Great Britain is a other among many similar object lessons that are furnished by the irrepressible conflict between capital and labor. Operations in that line are becoming more and more extensive, and threaten to involve the civilized world in a maelstrom of strife. Activity on one side of the question incites a similar condition on the other and thus the fight proceeds and extends its proportions. On the side of capital every shade and grade of monopoly is being developed and on that of labor every species of resistance is being brought into being, from the operations of the sensible, intelligent, far-seeing class of workmen, who insist upon the prevalence of sound economic ideas and measures, down to the rampant, blood and thunder anarchist who demands an equal division of property. To come right down to facts, the labor and capital question overtops all others with which statesmen and philanthropists have to deal. We insist that from the present drift of affairs, the subject is pregnant with future results, which, when born, will startle the whole civilized world.

THE AMNESTY PETITION.

THE amnesty petition is still in the hands of President Harrison. Many inquiries are made in relation to it. The duties of the President of the United States are many and onerous. It takes time to accomplish anything of an official character. The amnesty matter is one of importance and will be duly and carefully considered before action is taken concerning it. The probability is that it will be decided favorably, as the general sentiment of thoughtful people is that the petition

should be granted. Among other papers, the *Washington Post* expresses an opinion on the subject which is as follows:

"Many reasons may be given for relieving of their disabilities such citizens of Utah as have been disfranchised because of their former polygamous practices, one of which is that polygamy has practically ceased to exist as a tenet of the Mormon Church, and the chief of which is that it is wholly contrary to the theory of our institutions to keep any class or body of the people under the ban of political disfranchisement after they have once abandoned the offenses that provoked the curtailment of their rights. With the undoing of the causes should come a suspension of the consequences, and there is ample warrant for the belief that in this case the Mormons are fully entitled to the amnesty for which they ask, and that their petition is presented in entire good faith.

"It may require time to obliterate all of the prejudices in favor of their peculiar religious system entertained by the older members of the Mormon Church, but enough is known of the changed condition of affairs in Utah, or if not known to the Presidency may easily be ascertained by investigation, to justify him in exercising clemency toward the petitioners. They are no longer polygamists; they give the most solemn assurances that they no longer place the authority of the hierarchy above that of the United States; that they have abandoned in theory and fact certain customs which they were taught to regard as permissible and right, but which the government has condemned as criminal; that they are thoroughly loyal to the lawful authorities, and in all respects entitled to the full prerogatives of other citizens. Why, then, may not the period of their probation be safely terminated? What is to be gained by perpetuating their disabilities?

"In view of the fact that the Mormons are in a general way industrious, orderly, and prosperous, they have had a pretty rough deal at the hands of the Government and have gone through a severe disciplinary ordeal. But the end has come at last. The Government has succeeded in all that it undertook to do, and having gained its points beyond the peradventure of a relapse or reaction, it can now afford to be magnanimous."

GEN. ALGER ON THE SITUATION.

GEN. RUSSELL A. ALGER quietly passed through Ogden Saturday in his special car, accompanied by his family. The General emphatically denied the telegraphic report of a few days ago, that "he had a bombshell which he intended to explode under old Dana soon;" in fact, it seems that it was a pure invention of one of those "enterprising" Chicago reporters. This sounds a little better, as we look at things, since "old Dana" is not much given to having bombshells exploded in his immediate vicinity without sending back the same kind of missile on a much larger and more destructive scale.

The General could not say what the outcome of the Minneapolis convention would be, only "whoever should be nominated would be elected." Nor could he offer a suggestion as to present possibilities; this, however, may be but another outcropping of that innate modesty and lack of self-assertion for which he is somewhat noted. He thought nothing of the third party, all the political forces of the country