

IN ENGLAND.

Spring has opened up most auspiciously. The weather, for this part, has been exceptionally good, and the opportunity offered farmers and gardeners for getting their crops in was very gratifying. Trade in the north has steadily increased since the opening of the year and the outlook for its continuance was never better than at the present. The miners are very busy, and as a very healthy sign of good times, the wages have been increased, the "pit men" of Northumberland getting 14 per cent. increase. But even with this advance on former prices, the wages are extremely low, many of the men not being able to earn more than a mere subsistence. The miners of Durham work on what is known as "the sliding scale," the benefit of which is felt more by the employer than the employee. By this system, if the price of coal increases sixpence in the ton, the men receive one and a quarter per cent. of it. The Yorkshire miners have received ten per cent. increase. The shipbuilders have their hands full, some having work to last a couple of years, and as a consequence the iron works of Darlington, Consett and Middlesboro' are very busy. This state of affairs is very gratifying.

The people of the north have witnessed some severe times, partly through their own fault. They have passed through several long strikes within the past few years, which made their condition a deplorable one. But "good times" have come again, and their former comfortable condition is returning. Still there are clouds gathering in the distance that forebode no good. There is talk of more strikes, not only of pitmen but others. This seems to be the effect of prosperity in England, and the result is that trade is driven to the foreigner and cheap laborer. A successful strike is becoming next to impossible, and recent events are making it more apparent to every reflecting mind.

The American "trust" system is gaining ground in England, and there is now to be found a salt, sugar, and a prospective glass "trust." Since the sugar "trust" was formed, sweetmeats and candies have gone up, and sugar is a halfpenny dearer per pound. By the formation of these "trusts" and the amalgamation of capitalists' interests, their hands are strengthened, and the laborer must submit or starve! A deplorable thought.

The "hirings" are now going on. To many of your readers, a "hiring day" would be something novel. It was to your correspondent. I beheld one in Stockton-on-Tees. On that day was gathered into town as many ghost shows, shooting galleries, hobby-horses, switch-back railways, peep-shows, wrestling contests, circuses—of a primitive order and diminutive compared to Sells' American—swing boats and as many other "take ins" as would more than fill the Eighth Ward square. It was a grand sight! The town was crowded. The steam organs of the various shows were going at full blast.

Everybody was jolly looking. The girls from the country were enjoying the hobby-horses and swing-boats and a ride in the new liver purifier and kidney cleanser—the switch-back railway. The more serious took in the ghost show; others went to see the circus that was parading its single pony on the stage of the show for the benefit of those who couldn't pay, but who were keenly watching the various antics of the single clown and acrobat of the company. This was the attraction.

Your correspondent spent four cents to see the ghost performance and was rewarded by seeing "Jack the Ripper and his Dream." What a terror there was in that name—Jack the Ripper—to the women of the United Kingdom. There was not a woman who didn't shake in her shoes at the very mention of it when he was prosecuting his bloody work. The show was a miserable "sell," the singing and dancing of the ladies of the company on the outside platform being the best part, and that was gratis.

To see the farm servants hired for the season, six months, was rather amusing. People selling themselves for that period of time at the low rate of from \$25 to \$70 for the whole season. When the contract is made, the parties hired failing to keep to their agreement, can be imprisoned, if they neglect to send a "God's-penny" in the shape of a shilling. That's merry England for you. This will be nothing new to many of your north of England readers, but here is something hot, if not surprising for them: Middlesboro', the Ironopolis of the north, is shortly to have a crematorium. The sanitary committee have considered the matter and when their report was brought before the council the resolution was almost unanimously adopted to establish a crematorium in connection with the chapel and cemetery. This manner of disposing of the dead is becoming popular in England. The public health is in danger by burying in the earth. So the bodies must be consumed and the ashes preserved under glass cases for the inspection of the curious, and as a solace for the bereaved.

Another item of interest in connection with the north has developed itself. Your readers have not forgotten. I presume, the name of Mrs. Rutter. This lady left Ogden some time last fall and created such a sensation among the pious but fabricating people of Chicago, that her name was raised from obscurity to the pinnacle of popular comment. The story of her disappointment, misery and escape from Utah was telegraphed to every part of the civilized world. When she came back to South Shields she was assailed by reporters in regard to the lying stories that were circulated about her. Many of them she denied, but admitted some. But the now famous Mrs. Rutter has repented; she longs for the pleasant vales of Zion; there is no rest for the soles of her feet in England, and her son cannot content

sition possible disaster. The time to talk over the people's choice for officers is before a ticket is made up. Men who never expressed any predilection while the matter was pending, will commence to growl just as soon as selections are made. They are simply contentious and impracticable. Those who want to talk should talk in time. Discussion ought to precede instead of follow a party decision. In primary, or convention, or committee, or private conversation or public speech, the wishes of citizens should be expressed, so that their delegates may understand the drift of popular sentiment before they assemble in convention and proceed to make up a ticket.

And when selections are made, fitness, integrity and experience should be the qualifications sought for. Blood relationship ought to cut no figure, one way or the other. While no one should be chosen simply because of his family connections, the fact that he is related to a predecessor in office or some man of prominence, ought not to operate as a bar to his selection. And the unwisdom of chronic objectors and sneerers, and the slurs and jibes of those who desire to make strife and split the party, ought to have no weight with sensible men or influence in the choice they make.

At our August election we want in each county a ticket that will win, and that will bear the names of men adapted to the positions to which they are nominated. No man has a patent right to any office in this Territory. No office is to be considered hereditary or of life tenure. No position is within the gift of an individual. Neither is "rotation" to be a governing rule. Officeholders are the servants of THE PEOPLE, and the people, by their chosen representatives should nominate them according to their best judgment.

All the people are or should be interested in the selection of proper men to office. The right to a voice in this matter belongs to every citizen, no matter what may be his status, religious or otherwise. If advice is needed, the people have the right to choose their advisers. They are not obliged to seek for it among professional politicians or the perennial growlers. Wise men for counselors, representative men for delegates, honest and fit men for office. Let these rules be the guide, and the voice of the people will control for good and for the best interests of the whole body politic.