

There are serious doubts as to the execution taking place. These surmises are combined with serious apprehensions, which prevail among the people of Stone Gap and vicinity. It appears that the condemned desperado was the leader of a band of bad men. The latter are now under the chieftainship of one Claib Jones and declare they will prevent the hanging of Hall or every one of the gang will sacrifice his life in an attempt to rescue him. Jones and his followers are from over the mountains across the Kentucky line, and have, in addition to small arms, a Gatling gun and a cannon. Preparations have been made to give the proposed rescuing party a hot reception, should they seek to carry out their avowed purpose.

If Claib Jones and his crew are going to get in their work in behalf of Hall they will have to be quick about it or they will be too late. If they make the assault the lovers of law and order will fervently hope that they will not only be baffled in their purpose but properly and thoroughly wiped out, that an object lesson may be furnished that will have a salutary effect upon other characters of the same stripe.

It is largely customary in these times, especially in the Southern States, when a person is even only charged with committing a crime, particularly if he be a man of color, to show the most sublime contempt for legal and authoritative processes in dealing with the individual accused. This sentiment is exhibited by taking the man (generally colored) against whom the allegation is laid out of the hands of the frequently too willing officers, and hanging him to the nearest tree. Another favorite method of summarily disposing of colored people accused of crime is to perforate their bodies with bullets. There is said to be an opposite to every condition. The proposed rescue of the notorious Hall furnishes it in this line. In the one case great anxiety is displayed lest the law should fail to do the work it is claimed it ought to accomplish; in the other the solicitude is in the direction of preventing the due and proper execution of the law.

This is a sorry state of affairs.

### THE WORKERS AT A DISADVANTAGE.

THE switchmen's strike is ended. Their defeat was inevitable from the first. Such will be the result in almost every similar contest unless the employers happen to be willing to accede to the demands made upon them. The latter have on their side, in a dispute, the non-union element, and, when necessary, all the resources of the government. United labor is impotent to contend successfully with these forces, unless it shall employ force more potent than that directed against itself. For this purpose we feel assured that united labor will yet organize in a military capacity. Should this opinion be realized, a civil revolution would be as sure as that night follows day.

We see that Mr. Gompers and other labor leaders declare that the Home-Steal people will yet be victorious. We believe these statements are misleading, and we doubt the sincerity of those who make them. If these assertions are honestly made the only basis

for them is that the Carnegie business is being placed at a disadvantage. On the other hand, the hardship under which the workmen involved are placed is overwhelming greater. The latter must find employment or starvation will overtake them and their families. If success or failure be based on the question as to which side can hold out the longer, it must go to the capitalists, who, in this case, are so wealthy that they could afford to stop the whole business, not being dependent upon it. In view of the evident situation it does not seem to be proper for intelligent labor leaders to deceive the workmen, and thus throw them into the most distressful conditions, ending with complete defeat.

When the switchmen's strike was opened the most sanguine assertions were made to the effect that they would be victorious. Such a result was plainly out of the question, the odds being overwhelmingly against them.

It is easy for a man to go around with his hands in his pockets, most of the work he does being done with his mouth, to hold out chimerical hopes of victory to striking men whose living has been taken away by their being ordered out of their employment. The sufferers are not so comfortably and securely situated as the men who do the "bossing." Otherwise their assertions of final victory would not be so pronounced.

### PROPOSED PROFIT SHARING.

PROFIT-SHARING as a settlement of the troubles between labor and capital has been recommended by many persons who are recognized authorities on both economic and industrial matters. The system prevails in some large manufacturing concerns in this country. The iron firm of Crane & Co. in Chicago has a system of profit-sharing, which appears to work satisfactorily. There is a regular scale of wages for all employees, but if the profits go beyond a certain specified percentage, then this surplus is divided among the workers.

The latest proposition in this line comes from Mr. Ingalls, president of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad. In his annual report to the stockholders that official recommends a system of profit-sharing as the only remedy for labor troubles. The directors of the road endorse the report and the stockholders are called on to assemble and appoint a committee to consider the new scheme. This committee will outline a plan by which the president and board of directors can make an attempt to test the practicability and success of the method in railroad industry.

### MORE ABOUT THE GREAT SALT LAKE RAILROAD.

THE following editorial from the San Francisco Chronicle of August 22nd has a special interest for this city:

"At the meeting of the Transcontinental Association today in New York it is expected that there will be razors in the air and that something will 'drop with a dull thud' before the meeting adjourns.

The Southern Pacific will find itself in opposition to all the other lines, especially on the Pacific Mail subsidy and the question of through rates, and the chances are that it will be forced into a surrender of some of the points upon which it has insisted so strenuously heretofore.

"California is deeply concerned in the impending struggle, but what it wants especially is to see the contest maintained by the building of the San Francisco and Great Salt Lake Railroad. If the Southern Pacific Company reduces through rates only and maintains its present high local rates it will do no good either to San Francisco or to the State. What is needed is cheap rates within the State, so that freight of all kinds brought here by water can be distributed on such terms that San Francisco can undersell Chicago as far east as Salt Lake City.

If the new road will make a proportionate way rate so that the Southern Pacific will have to meet it, and will assist this city to become the great distributing center for the whole Pacific coast, the reign of the monopoly will soon come to an end.

Transcontinental railroads ought to bring us coal from Wyoming and from Tennessee at such low rates that we can manufacture to advantage here and ship the manufactured articles eastward over the same roads that brought us the crude products. In this way, and with the aid of ocean carriage, San Francisco could become a great manufacturing city, and the railroads would have their hands full in distributing the finished products over an extent of territory larger than all the Atlantic States put together. That is the work for the San Francisco and Great Salt Lake Railroad company to inaugurate."

### GOLD STILL MOVING ABROAD.

"THE continuance of the overflow of gold (nearly \$2,000,000 having been shipped to Europe last week) makes a state of affairs almost without a parallel in recent years." Thus it is that Bradstreet, the well-known financial and trade authority of New York, speaks on the situation, which it further describes as both anomalous and extraordinary.

The authority above referred to confesses itself unable to give substantial reasons for the existing state of affairs. The sale of American securities in Europe, the silver agitation here, the rates of exchange between New York and London are all touched on, but none of them, nor all combined, would be sufficient to produce the results described. The anti-option legislation projected in Congress is also touched on, and considerable stress laid on it as a factor in the deportation of gold. On this point Bradstreet says:

"In former years offerings of commercial bills drawn against sales of cotton and grain to importers in Europe were an element of primary importance in maintaining the equilibrium of exchange. Such purchases were usually made for future delivery, the exporting houses here protecting themselves by the purchase of options. The proposed anti-option legislation restricted such transactions to an extent from which the markets have not yet recovered. It is stated that a year ago in cotton alone three large New York houses drew against cotton futures up to August last no less than \$70,000,000 of bills of exchange. In the present season the drawings of the same establishments are not believed to exceed \$10,000,000. These