

crisis continues and prices steadily increase. The dispute between the mineowners and colliers in Scotland has been amicably settled. A vote has been taken by the Northumberland colliers and they have decided not to strike. North Lancashire miners have resumed work, but there are only a few miners in that part and it will not make much material difference. It is reported that hardly a single colliery in Yorkshire is working, and many thousands are idle.

Coal is beginning to be scarce. A great many industries have been closed already. Railroad companies are beginning to feel the effect of the strike. On one line thirty-two regular passenger trains have been stopped.

With regard to the general position and the prospect of any settlement of the dispute being arrived at, there is little or no particular change in the outlook. At a meeting of Lancashire colliery owners recently held, there was no new development whatever in the situation, and no indication of giving way on the part of the colliery proprietors connected with the Coal-owners' Federation.

The chief cause of the coal crisis, I learn from the press, arose from an extremely vigorous war in prices to large consumers, such as gas and railroad companies. This war has been raging for months almost entirely unknown to the retail patrons, and it has proved a disadvantage to them. The monopolists have been making a clear profit of about 17 1/2 per cent. But competition has been so strong among the coal owners, and prices so cut, that in order to continue making a high profit they have made a demand of 15 per cent reduction from the colliers' wages, who, as heretofore reported, have barely been making enough to subsist upon. Through this step hundreds of thousands of the laboring class have been thrown out of employment. Fortunately this crisis has come in the summer, and at a time when the weather has been extremely warm, or thousands would have been suffering from cold and hunger.

Numerous devices are being resorted to by the colliers in order to make an honest penny. Many can be seen on the streets begging from house to house. Bands of various instruments have been organized, and they can be seen on the streets playing in different parts of Lancashire, and I expect the same can be said of other shires.

AUGUST 18. — There is nothing special to report of the coal crisis, except a further upward move in prices.
R. A.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 28, 1893. — The House today passed the Wilson bill for the unconditional repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman silver law, but this was merely a preliminary skirmish to the great legislative battle that is to be fought in the Senate over silver. Some ugly talk is being indulged in by some of those who voted for repeal in the House, on the promise that further silver legislation should at once follow, because of the movement now under way to prevent the House undertaking any other

financial legislation at the extra session, and if the movement succeeds there will be more of the talk. An examination of the entire debate in the House will show that a large majority of those who voted for repeal announced themselves as bimetallics, and many of them stated in their speeches that they would vote for repeal because they expected silver legislation to follow. A bill for a single gold standard could not get forty votes in the House.

Although there is doubt, notwithstanding the positive prediction of such senators as Gorman, Hill, Morrill and Allison as to the outcome of the silver battle in the Senate, there is little or none as to the fate of the Wilson bill, which has just passed the House. It will be pigeon-holed by the finance committee, to which it will be referred as soon as it goes to the Senate. The fight in the Senate will be over the Voorhees bill, which after providing for the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman law declares it to be the policy of this government to maintain a bimetallic currency.

The administration is making every effort to secure votes for the Voorhees bill from the Southern senators who have been classed among those opposed to unconditional repeal, and this week President Cleveland is coming back to Washington to help. Numerous gains are claimed but the only names yet mentioned are those of Senators Call and Pasco, of Florida, who are said to have agreed to follow the example of Senators Voorhees and Hill in making free coinage speeches and then voting for repeal. The work is, however, only half done when a majority of promised votes have been obtained for the Voorhees bill. The bill cannot be passed unless it be voted upon, and it cannot be voted upon until the consent of practically all of the senators has been obtained. Efforts are now being made to reach an agreement as to the length of time the bill shall be debated and to set a day for taking the vote, but some of the senators will have to undergo a great change of mind before anything definite comes of them. The senators from the silver states say it will be time enough to talk about setting a time to vote after the subject has been debated a reasonable time. It is understood that the administration senators made an unsuccessful attempt to make a deal with the Republican silver senators to secure the setting of a date to vote on the Voorhees bill, in return for their promise to let the tariff alone during this session of Congress.

The proposition for the repeal of the tax on state bank currency is practically dead for awhile, as a majority of the House committee on banking and currency, to which the bill providing for the repeal was referred, is opposed to the bill. The same committee also as before is the bill providing for the exchange of United States bonds for currency whenever their owners were willing to give up the latter for the use of the currency, and so many objections have been raised against it that its favorable report to the House is doubtful.

The new rules for the government of the House have been completed. While they are not so strict as those

used by the last Republican House, they are much stricter than those used by the last House, and any extended filibustering will be very difficult, if not impossible.

Senator Lodge has introduced a bill that would, if it were a law, accomplish more practical reform in the civil service than all the laws now on the statute books have been able to do up to this time. It provides for taking the appointment of fourth-class postmasters entirely out of partisan politics, which would certainly be an improvement on the present method of appointing them. There is little probability, however, that the bill will ever become a law. It might get through the Senate, as the senators have but little personal interest in the matter, but it would stand no show in the House, for the average representative uses the fourth-class postmasters of his district to control the party machine, and to maintain his personal ascendancy.

The last day of the silver debate in the House was, by long odds, the most interesting, nearly every speaker being a man of national reputation. Among them were ex-Speaker Reed, Burke Cockran, Wilson, of West Virginia, "Private" John Allen, of Mississippi, and Bland, of Missouri, the silver leader of the House.

WE ARE familiar with the term "pouring oil on the troubled waters," tranquility being thereby presumably restored. It seems now as if oil might have to give way to soap. Dr. Koepfen, in his "Annals of Marine Hydrography and Meteorology," published by the Observatory of Hamburg, details the effects upon the waves of the sea of different sorts of oil, and comes to the conclusion that soap produces still far superior effects. In view of recent events and comments of an unexpected character and in unlooked-for places, we cordially recommend to what is left of the Liberal party a trial of soap; it can do no harm, and in some cases (notably some of the later accessions) might do some good.

DEATHS.

RUMEL.—At 11 p. m., August 31, of cholera infantum, Orson D., son of the late John H. Rumel Jr. and Uesula D. Rumel, aged 3 months.

EWER.—At 9:40 last night, at 1135 E. Eleventh South, of inflammation of the bowels, Fred, son of Henry and Emma Ewer; aged 5 years, 1 month and 10 days.

FOLTS.—At 7:30 p. m. Aug. 31, 1893, Richard H., only son of Edward F. and Emily Kate Folts, at the home of Richard F. Evans, 1472 Indiana avenue, Poplar Grove, Michigan and Indiana papers please copy.

FOWLER.—At Wellingboro', Northamptonshire, England, July 16, 1893, of old age, Jane Fowler, wife of Henry Fowler, 77 years. Though the deceased and her husband had not embraced the Gospel they had been friendly to the Elders, and their house had always been open to the emissaries of truth.

ANDERSON.—In the Sixth ward, Salt Lake City, August 30th, 1893, at 2:10 p. m., Edgar James, only son of James H. and Mary A. Anderson; aged 9 years and 8 months. The cause of death was heart and kidney trouble, brought on by an attack of inflammatory rheumatism in March, 1891.

TOONE.—Father John Toone, of Crozden, died August 3, 1893. His parents were John Toone and Elizabeth Master; he was born April 10, 1813, at Birmingham Warwickshire, England. He embraced the Gospel in April, 1849 or 1850, being baptized by Alfred Gordon. He came to Utah in September, 1852, and died a firm believer in the Gospel. He was well respected and will be buried on Sunday. (Com.)