DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

Wednesday, - - December 13, 1893.

THE DESERET EVENING NEWS is published every evening except Sunday, at the Book Store of Deseret News, 143 Main Street.

Business office, 70 E. Second South. Telephone 1000.

THE DESERET NEWS, WEEKLY NEWS is published on Tuesday and Friday of each week.

THE DESERET WEEKLY is published every Saturday.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily (7 Months)	$3.50
Daily (6 Months)	3.00
Daily (3 Months)	1.50
Daily (1 Month)	50
Daily (1 Week)	12
Daily (to the Year)	6.00
Semi-Weekly Edition (6 Months)	1.00
Semi-Weekly Edition (3 Months)	50
Semi-Weekly (6 Months)	1.00
Semi-Weekly (3 Months)	50
Weekly (6 Months)	1.00
Weekly (3 Months)	50

Postage to foreign countries, Canada excepted, at the rate of 2 cents per copy for the Daily, and 1 cent per copy for the Semi-Weekly and Weekly.

Any responsible person can obtain copies of the DAILY NEWS at the rate of one cent per copy for the Daily, and half a cent per copy for the Semi-Weekly and Weekly, by guaranteeing the payment of the subscription price.

Subscribers changing their place of residence should always give their last address as well as present address.

The NEWS is on sale at the various News Stands and on all railroad trains running into this city every A. M. train.

A communication should be addressed to DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

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THE COLOSSUS OF STRIKES.

Far and away exceeding in financial and industrial losses any other strike of which we have any knowledge, is the great coal-miners' contest in England, only lately happily terminated by arbitration and concession on both sides. The figures representing these losses have been made public, and they are appalling in their vastness. During the sixteen weeks that the conflict lasted at full pressure, the coal output dropped from the normal figure of 65,000,000 tons to 30,000,000. The loss to mine owners, iron masters, railroads, and so on, was £18,250,000. Consumers paid in increased prices £1,707,000. Miners, iron workers and other artisans lost £19,250,000. The total general loss is placed at £54,250,000. The workers concerned numbered 1,000,000, which means 5,511,428 persons in a destitute condition.

Does it not seem that in a case of this kind, where there was nothing but certain loss to all parties concerned—the miners, the owners, the consumers, and the nation collectively and individually—there ought to have been a chance for reason and common sense to assert themselves and do their work in less than sixteen weary weeks of destitution and delay? Enlightenment and civilization have perhaps greater problems to grapple with today than ever confronted a previous age in the world's history. But every day's experience proves that with all our nineteenth century boasting, there are stupendous lessons we have still left unlearned.

ANTI-ANARCHISTS.

The renewed activity among the anarchists as exhibited in the recent diabolical work in Spain, France and other European nations is likely to result in more vigorous measures against these enemies of human peace and progress. Such proceedings will probably continue from one stage to another until people from sheer necessity of self-defense will decree the banishment of anarchism from among civilized nations.

It is interesting to observe that in Great Britain, where there exists more of freedom of speech and of the press than in any other country in Europe, the anarchists make the least headway and their violent efforts meet with least success. It is a fact that comparatively few British born anarchists, in that one-time asylum, where men in official positions are often denounced, to pass and from the rostrum, in unmeasured terms for pursuing a course that does not meet with popular commendation, the usual love of law and order is so strong that anarchistic doctrines find little soil for growth.

The exhibition at Trafalgar square the last two Sabbaths is an indicator of what anarchists will meet with in Britain. Their efforts at lawlessness will be promptly and vigorously met by a perfect and powerful official discipline that will not be slamed for neglecting necessary precautions to cope with trouble, and behind the authoritative maintenance of order in government, the mass of the people, down to the poorest class from which it is usually supposed anarchists gain most of their proselytes, are ready to pounce upon the law-breaking crowd and send them to prison. So it said to her credit that Great Britain is an unlikely place for anarchism.

AGAINST AMERICAN FLOUR.

There is probably no American author or farmer so free of a protective tariff as applied to imports, that he would favor a special tariff restriction on the part of foreign nations when our products come to be regarded by them as imports. For instance, the German authorities in Germany have succeeded in putting an import of $2.70 per barrel or 25% ad val. on American flour, the result of which is the practical exclusion of this product from German markets. Not is there any early prospect of a reduction in this tax, a duty which has led some of our diplomatic agents to that country to advise the sending of commercial representative to the great ports of the Fatherland with a view to converting their leading men to a more liberal view of international equity and a better appreciation of their own country's needs.

A certain feature in this transaction is the fact that while tale almost prohibitive import rates as to flour, American wheat may be imported into Germany subject only to a duty of $1.19 per 220 lbs. This is less than half the figure laid against the flour, and is clearly out of all proportion. For the purpose it and for to exist, and in justice it is against it a duty looking at it from the German standpoint merely. The discrepancy cannot be explained in favor of the consumer, for he would just as soon buy the flour as the wheat. It cannot be in favor of the home producer, for what he raises in this line is originally wheat, and flour. It can only be in favor of the home miller, whose monopoly of the grinding even of imported cereals is thus preserved.

The proposition furnishes matter for discussion on both sides of the tariff question in America. The reformers may point out the injustice to the comparatively few millers. The high protectionists may point that the blunder is in adding to the defensive duty for lower taxed or free raw materials.

PLAINS IN THE ANTI-TRUST LAW.

The recent report of U. S. Attorney-General Olney—he, like other department chiefs, being required to make an annual communication just prior to the regular session of Congress—lends largely with the anti-trust law of 1890, and is interesting because under the most persistent kind of pressure that he should proceed to enforce the provisions of that enactment, Mr. Olney has heretofore preserved the most shield and impartiable kind of indifference. Party organs even on his own side have leveled great editorial broadsides at him because he did not at once begin a war on monopolies and opposition papers have come to his rescue with the sarcastic remark that a lawyer of his training, instincts and inclinations could not be expected to attack officially the very class of clients from which he had philosophically drawn his practice, his emoluments and his legal eminence.

In the face of these well-meant threats of friends and bristled shafts of foes, the Attorney-General has proceed to silence the even tenor of his way, apparently neither heeding the one, nor shrinking from the other. But in the report which he has lately promulgated, he turns on a search light which seems to put both friends of critics to flight. Figuratively speaking, he drives a coach-and-four right through the middle of the noted statute, and then proceeds mercilessly over its disconnected carcasses.

But way of introduction Judge Olney boldly says there is an erroneous popular impression as to the scope of the law, and this he aims to correct. He starts the wedge in by saying that the subject matter upon which the statute operates, and alone can operate, is "any part of the trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign nations." This, of course, exempts all those transactions that are carried on wholly within the jurisdiction of a state. Also exempted from the purview of the statute are railroad companies engaged in interstate commerce, because they are subject to special and exclusive legislation. In the next place, the subject matter of the statute as thus limited is to be protected from (1) monopolies, (2) attempts to monopolize, (3) combinations or conspiracies to monopolize and (4) contracts, combinations or conspiracies, in form of trusts or otherwise, in restraint of trade or commerce. But, the Attorney General says, all ownership of property is of itself a monopoly, and every business contract or transaction may be viewed as a combination which more or less restrains some part or kind of trade or commerce. He therefore logically concludes that any literal application of the provisions of the statute is out of the question.

But he does not rely alone upon his own interpretation of the law. To do so would be contrary to legal practice and precedent, if not impertinent to one who is presumed to accept and defend the constitutionality of a law until the contrary is established. Fortunately there has been a judicial ruling upon the statute in question. No less a dignitary than Associate Justice Jackson of the U. S. Supreme court, decided, while acting as circuit judge, as follows: 1. That Congress cannot limit the right of state corporations or of citizens in the acquisition, accumulation and control of property. 2. That Congress cannot prescribe the prices at which such property shall be sold by the owner, whether a corporation or individual. 3. That Congress cannot make criminal the intents and purposes of persons in the acquisition and control of property within the state of their residence or similar character. 4. That necessarily, or prohibited by the statute, means an exclusive right in one party, as opposed with a legal restriction or restraint upon some other party, which prevents the latter from exercising or enjoying the same right. 5. And that contracts in restraint of trade and combinations in pursuance of contracts in actual restraint trade, and such as would be void at common law (especially of our states).

Personally disposed as he may be to argue that as first, the Attorney-General overstrains a strained point in his whole question may be reviewed and passed upon by the court of last resort, and a test case has accordingly been set in motion and will be pushed to a conclusion. It may not be proper to anticipate that there will be no special zeal in arguing against his publicly expressed conclusions by the chief legal official of the government, but it is surely appropriate to say that in view of the showing already made, the chiefs of the anti-trust press for the enforcement of the law may profitably be employed for a season, and that in moving early for important amendments in the statute, its legislative friends will be so seriously sore ground.

A DANGEROUS EXPERIMENT.

The French government is at this time restricting the liberty of the press, or use of the measures proposed for the suppression of anarchy. This may be thought necessary just now. But it is a general rule that a dangerous experiment to touch the press of a country where free thought is always been established. The minister of power in explaining the proposed measure in the chamber of deputies stated that it is for restriction, that only such restrictions would be employed as are absolutely necessary for the suppression of crime. It is evident that an explanation so vague would not have satisfied the chamber, but the members got been excited on account of the mass stream of their whole to measure while in session for a restricting law may originally have only the aim of suppressing "crimes," yet circumstances may arise, when the same law may be made to operate against legitimate criticism, in the press, of a government put hard on the welfare of the republic. Laws against the freedom of the press are always a deflection, however slight, toward the condition of Russia or Turkey. Especially in the latter country be restrictive gag in the extent of censoring everything that concerns the government and its officials, except it be eulogy and flattery. And this iron hand is laid on the press, precisely on the same plea as that which the French minister of justice puts forth—it is necessary for the suppression of "crimes."

On the whole it is safer to leave the press alone. The possible dangers that may threaten from corrupt and incendiary publications are incomparably smaller than the benefits that are derived from a free press. The latter, after all, is the most reliable guardian of the constitutional rights and the true liberty of the free nations of the world.

THREE RESISTANCE IN WALES.

The dispatch from London which announces that "the Penrhyn district, North Wales, is in a state of anarchy," bears on its face evidence of gross exaggeration, the inspiration for which is revealed in the closing statement of the telegram that the home secretary does not send troops to enforce certain writs because "the Welsh members of parliament are anti-tithers and ardent liberals almost to a man."

The dispatch is in line with efforts in progress in Great Britain to bolster up the established church in Wales, which the Gladstonian party is disposed to break down in its temporal control. The question is an important one to the Cambrian people, and for a long time they have been clamoring for the disestablishment of the Welsh church as a government institution. This ecclesiastical organization has many features objectionable to "dissenters," or dissenters from the state religion, that which provokes the greatest opposition being the enforcement of the tithe law. Under this statute a person of the state church can collect tithes from a person who holds no membership in the church, and can invoke the officers of the law to seize property for tithing.

It is this outrage upon justice and religious freedom that many of the people of Wales are opposed to. They do not believe that a person of the Welsh church should be permitted to levy tithes upon a member of a dissenting church and seize that member's cow, house or other property therefor. This attempt to collect tithes by distraint has been met with prompt resistance for many years in succession, and in the main the resistance has been effective.

But as to a state of anarchy existing, that is all rubbish. The true condition is that when a sheriff attempts under a civil process to take off some farmer's cow for the benefit of the parson, the farmer and his neighbors unite and tell the officer to keep his hands off and test the legality of their acts. If the sheriff is foolish enough to attempt to use force, he is liable to get roughly handled. It was one of these affairs that caused the "riots and bloodshed" found in the dispatch as occurring two or three years ago. The "bloodshed" consisted of the gun fire that was spilled in several rough and tumble fights, in which on the whole only colored, though several of the participants were bruised and bloodied.

It is not to be measured at not less Parliament the Welsh tithe collecting system. Minister Balfour referred to Lloyd-George as a "practically recognized in parliament." The reason for this is such speaking and liberal minister commands popularity with the opposition in the parliament. The latter have the force of the law on their side, but there is not for the vote of the Anglo-Saxonism to be found in parliament on how stand in opposition. The tithe collectors know, and while in a few disagreeable cases the sheriff officers Welshmen are found for there is no attempt at prosecution, it is thought that would bring the matter before the higher courts for adjudication. In these circumstances that a Lincoln or Hyde from discretion was all in the management of religious freedom and property rights, and then the officials would fall to pieces that while they now resolve from many people who would rather pay tithe to engage in the business of parsonage. The sentiment for the disestablishment of the Welsh church goes on steadily increasing, and the secession may see the end of enforced tithe collection. But the resistance to this collection is not entirely or anything akin to it. To all the laws that are recognized by her majesty's government as truly smelling than any Welshmen give unpolished allegiance. In resisting a particular act they are but voicing the sentiment of all the various dissenting church members in Britain, and should they within the proper resolution, which, in their administration at least, justify them in resisting an overbearing officer who exceeds the strict line of his duty.

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NOTICE.

Mission Flour Mining Company, Salt Lake City, Utah.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AT [illegible]

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Estate of Mary E. Thompson, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE [illegible]

NICKLAUS CONDON, [illegible]

A BIG HIT!

We have a regular course of amusement in our Lake City for many years past, and I think I know a good show when I see one. I went to Wonderland last night, and the entertainment I saw there made "a big hit" with me. The vaudeville was very good, and I heard everyone are going to have.

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