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DESERET EVENING NEWS.

The Great Percentage of Prosperous Farmers, Ranchmen, Stockmen of the West See No Other Paper Than the Semi-Weekly News. Advertisers, Make a Note of It.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1903. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR.

PART TWO.

The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.

HE STOOD UP FOR A PRINCIPLE.

Lord Penrhyn Refused to be Dictated to by Professional Agitators.

CAUSE OF THE WELSH STRIKE.

Story of the Struggle Which King Edward and Andrew Carnegie Tried in Vain to Settle.

Special Correspondence.

London, Nov. 18.—Entirely a false impression will be conveyed if the first reports to reach the United States regarding the formal ending of the disastrous strike in the Penrhyn slate quarries which has lasted, off and on, for the last six years, after the idea that Lord Penrhyn's victory over his men is to be considered as a triumph of capital at the expense of organized labor, in the ordinary sense of the term. This ordinarily soft-hearted, if destitute, Welsh peer has been fighting, not against organization among his men, but against dictation by professional agitators whom, according to his belief at any rate, do not really represent the quarrymen of the Penrhyn mines. And as situations of this sort seem to be getting more and more frequent in the United States, it is just as well that it should be made plain under exactly what circumstances the fight has been brought to an end. For months there has been no doubt whatever as to the outcome of the contest, but it was on last Friday only that the representatives of the men communicated with Lord Penrhyn's manager admitting that the strike had failed.

THE ORIGINAL PLOT.

In the years that have passed since the strike at Bethesda began the original plot at issue has become so clouded that people have forgotten what it was, but few struggles of the kind have had more unexpected results than this between the second Baron of Penrhyn and everyone of whom formerly depended for his bread and butter on his work in the slate quarries. The contest is said to have cost Lord Penrhyn \$500,000, and brought down such a torrent of reviling upon his head that at last the peer sued for libel some of the most vehement of his critics, and won his case. It may be remembered that after both the king and queen had tried in vain to settle the dispute, Andrew Carnegie made a determined, but equally futile effort in the same direction, and at one time it looked as the contest might have the sensational result of overthrowing the ministry.

WHERE BETHESDA IS.

Probably no one will need to be reminded that Bethesda is in Wales, and in the heart of the blue-slate country, of which Lord Penrhyn, millionaire and son of a famous house, is one of the largest proprietors. And the queerest thing about the extraordinary strike by which the town has practically been ruined is that nearly all of the 2,000 men of Bethesda had worked in the Penrhyn quarries all their lives, as had their fathers before them. Prior to the Bethesda strike no one ever had thought of describing Lord Penrhyn as

COMBES TO RETIRE.



Mr. Combes, the present premier of France, has announced his early retirement from office. As the successor of M. Waldeck Rousseau, Mr. Combes assumed the premiership at a critical juncture. His forcible closing of all sectarian schools not conforming to the public school laws caused riots and he has since been shot at. It is the intention of M. Combes to devote much time to literary work.

a stern employer, nor do his employees outside that town find him so. On the contrary, the baron has the reputation of a philanthropist. For the Bethesda folk, for instance, he built churches and schools and saw to it that their welfare was looked after in other ways.

NO DISPUTE OVER WAGES.

Apparently there never was any dispute regarding wages between Penrhyn's lord and the miners of Bethesda. When, however, in 1885, the baron assumed charge of the mines in his father's name, he was a good deal taken aback at the rather high-handed tone which was being adopted by a committee of leaders who nominally represented the men. Probably some understanding would have been reached if Lord Penrhyn had been convinced that this committee really was representative, but all the evidence seems to indicate that the leaders themselves were turning a deaf ear to the wishes of a goodly number of the miners. In consequence Lord Penrhyn declined to deal with the committee, the committee declined to treat with representatives of the other faction among the miners, and so the strike was declared which will go down in history as one of the most extraordinary of modern times. This was in 1897. Some time after

ward a sort of compromise was reached, but matters soon got worse than ever, and it ended in the men's going out with the determination to starve rather than return to work on any but their own terms.

CAUSED GREAT SUFFERING.

And starve they did. In fact it was not long before the whole country began to ring with the tale of sufferings at Bethesda on the part of those who could not buy bread to eat and who were being ejected from their homes, and as a result \$100,000 was raised by popular subscription to relieve the distress. Notwithstanding this, over 100 people actually died of want. Others went mad from the miseries of their condition. Shop-keepers in Bethesda failed one after another, and the place began to decay. Meanwhile, Lord Penrhyn was bringing in new men from outside to work his quarries and these "bradrays," as they were called, and their families were set upon by the strikers and bloodshed was often the result.

KING EDWARD'S ATTEMPT.

King Edward attempted to end the trouble by sending for the representatives of the men and making suggestions which he thought might be endorsed by Lord Penrhyn, but the peer would not accept the proposed compromise. Then Queen Alexandra tried her hand by suggesting to Lord Penrhyn and Sir Thomas Lipton that they offer to arbitrate between the baron and his men, but both men declined to meddle. Mr. Carnegie's attempt to solve the problem, it may be recalled, took the form of an enterprise to open new quarries not far from the Penrhyn ones, and to run them in competition with those of his lordship. The Welsh peer, however, proved too much for the laird of Skibo by acquiring every foot of land in the district before the "North Wales Quarries, Ltd.," as the new company was called, could decide where to commence business. Probably most people will remember the circumstances under which the whole question of the strike came into parliament. The government had declared its inability to interfere and the opposition made a determined but ineffectual attempt to get a vote of censure passed—the result of which might have been the fall of the Conservative ministry.

REOPENING OF MINES.

Meanwhile, the Lord of Penrhyn was not finding the situation a picnic. In 1901, he succeeded in re-opening the mines, but for a year carried on work at a loss instead of the profit of \$150,000 a year, to which he had been used. Since the beginning of the present year, however, no one has doubted the outcome of the strike. About 500 of the men had gone back to work of their own accord before the leaders officially threw up the sponge a day or two ago, and since then, Lord Penrhyn's manager has been inundated with letters from former strikers who are anxious to be taken back. As many as possible will be signed on, but the number will be comparatively small, so many berths having been filled from outside.

LO, THE RICH INDIAN.

According to E. M. Sweet, in the World Today, the richest people in the world are the Osage Indians of Oklahoma. Every member of the tribe has a balance of \$4,644 deposited in the safest place on earth in the vaults of Uncle Sam's big bank at Washington, drawing 5 per cent interest. In addition to this they have each 537 acres of land, about one-fifth of which is in a good state of cultivation, and is worth from \$9 to \$30 an acre. Of the total remainder, \$86,000 acres is leased for pasture, mostly to Texas cattlemen, at an average rental that gives the land a value of \$5 an acre to the Indian. But averaging up the whole at the low valuation of \$5 an acre, and this does not take into consideration the oil, natural gas and coal to be found throughout that region, nor the several lines of railway now being constructed through the reservation, the land holds \$56. That is to say, a very conservative statement of the wealth of these people must place it at least less than \$11,500 for every man, woman and child of the tribe.

BRITISH ARE TO INVADE THIBET.

Soldiers to March to the "Forbidden Land" of Quaint Customs And Loose Morals.

QUEER TRAITS OF THE PEOPLE.

High Priest is a Child Kept in Solitary Confinement—They Use Wheels to Pray With.

Special Correspondence.

London, Nov. 21.—Americans who have learned from the cable dispatches that a strong British force is about to march from India into Thibet to reinforce a smaller force already encamped in the "forbidden land" may have been somewhat puzzled to know what English troops are doing in mysterious Thibet, anyway. And as a matter of fact it is rather difficult, even here, to make out exactly why the first expedition under Col. Younghusband which now is being menaced by the Thibetans, was sent from Simla.

OCCUPATION OF LHASSA.

But whether the official assurance is true that the mission simply went to protest to the Thibetan authorities regarding violations of trade treaties, or whether, as most people here believe, the foreign office wants to find out how much of an influence Russia has obtained at the lama's court, the fact remains that the forthcoming expedition will have to make an uncommonly long and face a choice lot of dangers before it reaches its objective point. This, by the way, is Gyangste, the Thibetan city 100 miles inside the frontier, and only 100 miles from the sea. And if the exigencies of the campaign should lead to the occupation of Lhasa—the jealously-guarded sacred city of Buddhism into which only three white men have ever penetrated—and the members of the expedition get out of it alive, the world will hear a story of queer rites and practices such as perhaps never has been told.

TRYING EXPERIENCES.

It was as long ago as last June that Col. Younghusband and his force of 300 Sikhs cut for Thibet from Simla—ostensibly at least for the purpose of talking over trade questions with representatives of the Thibetan authorities. Reports from Indian declare that the Thibetans invited the conference, and his men, after an arduous journey, finally reached the mysterious land beyond the Himalayas. Europeans always have been no more than visitors in Thibet, and the place began to decay. Meanwhile, Lord Penrhyn was bringing in new men from outside to work his quarries and these "bradrays," as they were called, and their families were set upon by the strikers and bloodshed was often the result.

WHAT IS IN STORE?

Probably it would be hard to find a more difficult march anywhere on earth short of the Polar regions than that which this expedition will have to negotiate. It is a stark, stony, high-altitude land, "there is no easy way from India into Thibet." The northern part of the land of the Rajahs lies almost as flat as a board, and then rises 12,000 feet to the immense table land in the center of which Thibet lies, and which is fringed, or it might be said, supported, by the Himalayan mountains, whose peaks far over-top the plateau. The road which must be used for this terrific climb runs between Kichinjunga, which an Englishman recently explored at the imminent risk of his life, and the great mountain, and is especially hazardous. The complete journey from Simla, in northern India, where the expedition will mobilize, to Gyangste is Thibetan destination, is about five hundred miles. 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