try to keep out the limitless ocean with whatever of rage or oakum happens to lie handy; not because they really hope to succeed, but because they must needs satisfy their consciences by hoping against hope.

Bad news from Burnham—or good, if you be not as astonished as Jingo. The Dacots are giving trouble indeed, and are as eager for other people's goods as the veriest Englishman would have them to be; this is always on the assumption that they are Dacots, i.e., robbers; as, of course, all people are who resist the progress of our commercial bodyguard.

And yet, if the history could be written by the vanished, their resistance would seem uncommonly like that of defence of hearth and home that has been so besieging amongst us, though we have had so little to do with the practice of it, except as offering occasion for derision. Indeed, as regards our dealings with barbarous foreigners, we English are like the poor in the capitalist morality, whose function it is to afford occasion to the virtues of charity and benevolence. If the Burmese, therefore, are troubled to account for such unaccountable evils as English invaders, they had better conclude that they were made to give them an occasion for practising hopeless courage first, and fortitude under injury secondly. They are hardly like to find a better solution of the problem.

By the way, the Indian mutiny is an old story now; but it is worth while to quote a line or two from the very frank author of "Life on Board the Alabama" in the Century magazine, who says in passing as a matter not worth much attention, "I must say that the 'pandies' seemed to have a white more brutal and hideous than the English civilians and soldiers." He saw Gordon afterwards in China, and found him "a very common-place gentleman," with a great talent for swearing. General Ward, the ex-Yankee clipper-mate," he admired far more as "bold, bloody, and resolute." The poor devils of Taipings probably found out the meaning of those words, which give one a kind of shudder, as of Captain Teach or Blackbeard come back again. Truly our soldiers of fortune are a fine present for us to give to the "outer barbarians."

W. M.

**SOME INSTRUCTIVE FACTS.**

* A few facts are worth a great many suppositions. The following brief history of a firm has been put together as an illustration of the working of the present competitive system. The writers have satisfied themselves of the accuracy of the statements, and are quite prepared to prove them if challenged. This is in no way meant as an attack upon the persons at the head of the firm, nor is it the record of an exceptionally infamous instance of capitalist tyranny and greed. Plenty of similar cases could be found, and no doubt many a great deal worse. It is just a type of the system, and without the least exaggeration in the telling.

Some weeks ago a note appeared in this journal in the state of Trade in Leeds. A firm in the flax industry was mentioned which would not close the field for others. The American industry has some fifteen hundred employes without the chance of earning even the scanty living now afforded them by the mills. The firm referred to is Marshall & Co. It was founded some seventy or eighty years ago by the fathers of the present partners. Business was started in a humble way, but carried on with more than ordinary shrewdness, and perhaps not less than ordinary regard for the people who laboured hard and long to build up the great mass of wealth now owned by the masters. The business grew steadily and quickly into fame and importance: the workers made the riches quickly, and Marshall & Co. took care of them. In time one of the hugest flax-mills in the world was built, splendid machinery made, and at the period of their greatest prosperity about 3000 hands were employed. To-day the head of the firm is reputed a millionaire, while the younger members have tripling fortunes of a few hundred thousand pounds each. These millions, because, of course, of the staple industries of Yorkshire, and many hundred families depended on the employment furnished by them. Of late years, however, the great change which has come over England's commerce began to affect the market of trade, and with characteristic acuteness the firm was at once on the lookout for a means of holding on to its profits. It was soon apparent that trade was not merely dull or declining, but that it was starting from the centre of the world, and that there was nothing resolved to follow their profits, and preparations were made, and are now nearly finished, to leave the country. Their capital (machinery value) will be transported to America, where the industry can be carried on more profitably. This is because the textile industry in the country is not caused by terror at the spread of incendiary doctrines, but is simply the result of the capitalist looking out for himself, as he always does. The American market is a large and easily conquered country and exploiting whatever people will yield him the biggest return.

But although the capital is going, the workers will be left behind. Jingo is as willing, plentiful, cheap, and, on the whole, as docile, in America as here. So the cost of transit will be small, and the workers, including several hundred young girls, will be left to look out...