Mr. Burnett has written an article to the "Pall Mall Gazette" in which he describes the meeting of the delegates of the English "Trades" union recently held in Paris. Considering Mr. Burnett's position and that of the English "Trades" unions at present, this is a document of some importance, and it would be well to understand the drift of it. Here is this Englishman, and clearly is anxious to prove the superiority of the English workman over the French, who, from his point of view is more backward as being less of an unionist, and also as being a "loyal" friend to the English brother. Moreover, I need say nothing, save that Mr. Burnett's figures help to confirm the Socialist view of the general industrial depression all over the world. For the rest, he speaks of the French "Trades"-unionists as belonging to the "Pessimist Club of the Socialista, who, I must remind our readers, are the most backward section of the party, being sorely tainted with opportunism, and aiming at mere State Socialism; so that I must assume that the French "Trades"-unionists, though they may go further in "refusing to identify" with the English, have as good a "conscience" amongst the most advanced of French workmen. As for the resolutions for which the English delegates refused to vote, it is true, as Mr. Burnett says, that they would have "forced their opinions upon the English" in England for some time; but the two most important of them are the claims for an international minimum of wages and for a maximum of eight hours for the day's work, of which course have not been touched here. However, Mr. Burnett states that the English delegates would have affirmed their assent to them, "but for the first clause, which required the workmen of the different countries represented to urge upon their respective governments and industrial organisations, for the purpose of concluding international conventions and treaties concerning the conditions of labour." Now the neutrality of the English delegates on these terms does seem, as the "Cri du Peuple" calls it, "grotesque," because these conditions are the essence of the present situation: things otherwise, and can only be carried into effect by the existing machinery of government; so that to a plain man the meaning of the neutrality seemed to be, "Yes, we agree to these measures, but we do not want to have them carried out, dear friend." Of course to us Revolutionary Socialists the resolutions seem no approach to a solution of the labour question; and to try to carry them as an index of French sentiments seems more than doubtful when it is possible that after a long agitation they might be yielded to the masters, who, though they would then be in a worse position perhaps, would still be the masters; labour would not be emancipated, while the present condition be "contented" by the concession—i.e., cut off from the real issue. But, also of course, the neutrality of the delegates was not based on that ground, they were not afraid of State Socialism, but of Socialism. Nor, indeed, can any other ground be put forward. A large number of literate Englishmen were sent to this meeting to "vote" on the point of their delegation, who were all avowed Socialists of some shade or other. Mr. Burnett's phrase of "the English unions depending for their advancement upon themselves" is a mere phrase, and really means the reverse of what it seems to mean. It means that the English unions are not prepared to accept the responsibilities of freedom, that they are still contented with their position and with the existence of the class system. But it is clear from Mr. Burnett's article that they are shaken somewhat, as the following quotation from it shows: "The English delegates, in the course of their discussions now manifesting itself in England, was not possible to stand on the high ground of three years ago, as if no such feeling existed." There is a certain weight in these words, coming from Mr. Burnett, who has not the axe to grind of the "Chief of the Board of Trade," or as a trades' union delegate: in both capacities he is bound to be very cautious. We may fairly hope that three years from this time the trades' unions will have abandoned the fence, but will be in the lists, and on the right side there.

William Morris.

The form of Mr. Bradlaugh's question in the House as to the imprisonment of John Williams, who was arrested, not only, since it is also announced by a Home Secretary to evade the real point of the Dugdale case, that the base charges of the assault were against both defendants, for Mainwaring's was exactly the same as Williams'. Of course the charge of "false imprisonment" is the same as that of "false imprisonment" on the part of the police; also he said nothing on that important part of the sentence which binds our comrades over to keep the peace and submit to the law, and Williams wasatorio in the law. He could not come out of prison until he had satisfied this part of the sentence alone. Assistant-Judge Eakin has managed to bamboozle people as to what the sentence of the Home Secretary meant to him. In any case, the public may rest assured that the sentence was directed against the Socialists, and not to any other class of people. A (Puttish-seeing) Civiliser.—Whether this man be honest or not, whether his motives be a high one or base, matters little to the unfortunate victims of his brutalities.

"The young Maharajah of Manipur is setting work in earnest to improve his status. He is determined to give employment to his subjects. He has imported machinery from England and is employing Indians in the manufacture of Printemps, Carachs, for saving and preparing timber for building purposes, and for the making of spades and the like. He has also imported unlimited supply of timber, and the cost of preparing for industrial use will not be less than one and a half. He is working mokey-mills and for pole-hunting has also been added to the resources of the State, and will do bring in a considerable accession of revenue. The young Maharajah is certainly moving in the right direction; and it is to be assumed that he is using the welfare of his people, he will secure their loyal attachment while adding to the material prosperity of the country."—Times of India, Aug. 10.

The Song of the Workers.

(remembering the martyrs of the commune.)

We drift along through events, and hear our masters in their mirth. They've slain our friends—our comrades—they've walked the earth: They're moving in a silent realm of service for the race. Their voices now are sounding from a hushed and awful place.

They now are calm and patient—they are for us, but can't wait; They're moving forever in the night, and in the wind. Free as the winds and waters—all our earthly wall and bars Have crumpled into shreds: they are moving with the stars. We'll not forget, O comrades, how ye met the ravaging lobsides— How alone ye stood—aye, in the dark, and with the swords; How they lit up all the Future, all the golden years to be, When the burden shall be lifted and the worker shall be free.

We'll remember how ye railed, faced the ancient Wrong in wrath, How ye armed yourselves in battle in the Realm of Night; We'll not forget your tears that flowed upon the barricades, Nor how ye looked from silent eyes when laid asleep with spears. Yore were the distant voices of the Revolution—hark! What noise is that of hurrying feet that gather in the dark? For the noise of people marching! Look: what tremendous sound, Looming in outer darkness, throws its shadow on the storm! It is the Terrier marching on before the face of kings— The light of hope that falls upon the avital as it rings— The sea and land and Spectre and the distant feast— The Hand reached down to mortals in the furrow with the beast. More terrible than tulips or the roll of drum-sticks Will be their cry before we at the final battle come. Ringing out, 0 voices, gather from the depths of the night— Ring on as rallying music in the fearful front of fight.

Charles Edward Cross.

Literary Notices.

The "Little Socialist" of Denver, from which the Clerkenson Branch took its idea for a Labour "National," has recently published the advertisement of the "Labour Enquirer" the leaflet entitled "The Worker's Claims and Public Opinion," originally written by comrade Schen to advertise the "Labour". This is as it should be. Whatever is for the advancement of the cause should be used by all—8.

"Bois de Critique" (Girard, 18, Rue Desroc, Paris). Under this title, Mr. Turv, "The Fires of Poesy," has published a number of poems and sonnets on many subjects, and literary works. The author discusses the theories of contemporary pessimism in a spirited manner. M. Turv defends throughout his book optimism, the dream and the ideal. It is a volume of 400 pages, written by a young man. Seldom has the school been so energetically attacked.

We have received Nos. 3 and 4 of the "Pelican des Poèmes" (Paris), which bids fair to be a very useful publication. These numbers contain some well-written popular articles on subjects interesting to Socialists, and a good deal of varied foreign news, of which, indeed, the editors seem to make a special feature in their periodical. We wish our contemporary all success.—M. M. To-Day for September has two sonnets on "The Depths of the Sea," that, good, they are, are written on the subject with which they attempt to deal. The articles this month are up to the average. A special number has been published, consisting wholly of an instalment of "Robinson Crusoe."

Christiania Socialist is, as usual, fairly good reading. An overzealous correspondent is tactfully rebuked for taking a recent radical article on "Socialists and Purity" too literally, and is told "There is a high moral tone among its (Socialism's) London advocates as a rule." Municipal and State Labor, a new paper, is a reprint of the address delivered by M. Leon Say to the Liberty and Property Defence League. It is principally filled with a glorification of "individual energy and personal responsibility" as against social unity for common good. The international solidarity of the exploiters grows more ever-complete—let the tollers take heed.

The Liberty and Property Defence League has also issued a broadsheet translation of M. A. Raffalovich's literary description of them, and of their work originally published in the "Journal des Economistes" (Paris). This contains a confession that the League was formed "under the pressure of necessity"—(the rats are being cornered and show fight)—and elsewhere explains that it is 'a crusade, a war which marches on against the humanitaria motives; its bond is rather the upholden of the grand principle of individual liberty, and the preservation of property of right. Railway combine...insurance...etc., these episodes are a large part of the resources, and wield considerable influence in Parliament. Granted they are monopolies, etc., etc. Keep on explaining, and you will lighten our work—8.

Six thousand tobacco-workers have struck work in Havana, because the employers would not raise their wages. Sixty-eight factories are stopped. The capital is in a state of agitation, and tremors of revolution near. A workman, a workman and his child were killed by the bursting of an unsafe boiler. Being only a workman he can be replaced less expense than his employers will be able to do for him. A workman in the British colonies: "Unresonable devil! You're twice as well off as your grandfather was!" says the capitalist to the workman. But the workman answers: "Yes, and I'd like to be, and ought to be! And if not, why not I—Workman's Advocate. It is not only the capitalists who talk like this, but men who imagine themselves to hold advanced opinions and who belong to Radical organisations, sometimes lecture Socialists upon their presumed unreasonableness because they refuse to be bannistered with such ridiculous nonsense. Their article of faith is that work should be R. T.