Mr. Grier said, however, with much truth, that the English people, from the days of Hengist and Horsa to those of Lord Randolph Churchill and Burma, was always ready to take everything they could lay their hands on. He was perhaps a little hard on the Government, as people are disposed to be. Like people are disposed to be if there is anything in it. Mr. Grier must remember it has two edges; and I must come back to my text and say that the most spiritual persons ought to be the most honest—though they seldom are.

One genius said that he feared that behind the apparently-innocent appearance of Socialism the livid spectre of Communism lay hid. This reminds me of an agreement once enacted at a rather stormy open-air meeting at which I was present, when a furious opponent said, "Why, at this rate you will be approving of the deeds of the Paris Commune." Whereupon our friend contradicted and forfessed and forgot to address this retailer of state news much as follows: "Sir, you have made a most remarkable discovery, a most remarkable discovery! Sir, I beg to congratulate you on your remarkable discovery! Sir, you are a fool!"

Mr. Arch, in addressing a great meeting of field-labourers, has been lamenting the suffering of the poor. Penwic and Bart, and, taking his cue from the respectable Liberal papers, has been telling them that it is probably a piece of treachery—the work of Tory intrigue and so forth.

The last speech I heard was rather a censure, and it rather made me feel that I was a failure, when I was not even aware of what I was doing in the speaking gallery. After all, I think it is a good thing if the poor are not always so easily convinced of their mistakes. I think that they should turn Socialists he has considerable cause for fear.

Perhaps no Government ever took so little by an attack on freedom as the present Tory Government have taken in prosecuting Lord Mayor Sullivan; the defeat was so overwhelming that the only excuse the Government prints could find was in the stupidity of their own officials. It has given the Nationalists an opportunity for a most successful demonstration at the cheapest possible price. For the rest, though one finds it hard to help smiling at the spectacle of the Lord Mayor, attended by mace and sword, a prisoner in the police court, yet it is a good augury of the time when local bodies shall find themselves in formal opposition to the stupid centralisation, which a little time ago seemed to be all triumphant.

The news of the "Socialist Disturbance" in New York demands explanation. That the American police should break up a Socialist meeting with the most brutal violence is nothing remarkable, unfortunately, even setting aside their exploits at Chicago, for they are on the whole the most brutal of all the defenders of law and order. But what explanation can there be of Mr. Henry George's followers attacking the Socialists and then attempting to pull the Capitol camp! Definitely we as Socialists differ from Mr. George, this would be a great disappointment to some of us, since he has always been put forward as a specially honest man and a lover of progress in all forms.

During the inquiry into the death of Head-Constable Whelan this past week, nothing has been so plain as that it was a hatched-up affair arranged by the police. Whether by Governmental instructions, in order to get an "efficient cause" for the coercion policy, or whether it was on their own account, to gain credit, has not been made clear; but what is clear is that unless the informer Callinan had worked up the business nothing would have happened.

In England, police intimidation and domiciliary visits; in Ireland, treachery and stupid official brutality; in "Hailolumbia, happy land!" the same as in Ireland—persecution for opinion and judicial murder; all these things are the bourgeois employing against the great movement which is growing so rapidly everywhere.

But their tools fall them sometimes. Last week a constable at Gweedore refused to fire upon the people—an inspector at Mitchelstown dared to tell the truth and shamed—his superiors; many others are leaving or preparing to leave "the force;" even a hardened policeman has some humanity left in him sometimes, and recognises that it is to the oppressed people that he belongs.

Careful propaganda should be made, by all can do so, among soldiers and policemen, and that speedily, for nothing so effectually frightens a government as to find the "strong hand" weakening on which it relies, and the force which rests upon slipping away from it.

It cannot be too much insisted upon that there is inevitable war between the classes and the masses, and that the army, navy, and police are, by the necessity of their position, against the latter. But they are drawn from the "masses," and may be made to realise that when these gain their end, the extinction of class, there will be more honourable and pleasant work for them than the Quil-cum-Juday employment they now follow.

The East London Waterworks Company, which issued its annual report on 14th inst., has earned some notoriety in the past year by the collapse of the role of its 

The unfortunate customers of the company have suffered greatly from the drought, but it has rolled in the sheds for the shareholders. The chairman boldly defended the intermittent supply, and threw all the blame on those "who had unduly removed their cisterns, and who neglected to fill a bucket during the day;" but the collectors of the company apparently have not "neglected to collect the rates, wither a supply of water was obtained or not.

Instances of this kind of thing are always recurring, and all that can be said is that, so long as the people allow monopoly to control the necessities of life, they must expect to be fleeced. That they should be as patient while profit is made out of their mischaps is not one of the least surprising circumstances of the case.

Those who speak so mildly and constantly of the "improved position" of the workers should read the report of the discussion between the Vestry of St. Luke's and the costers of Whitecross Street upon a poll-tax that the former proposed to levy upon the latter. One of the costers said:

"There is not one of us who don't pay double the rent we did years ago. I pay trebles. I have paid for the same accommodation 3s., 4s., 6s., and 9s. 6d. I am not in a position to pay what I am paying now, and ought not to have to pay it. The parish has gone down very much through the pulling down of the houses, and the building of the 'models' has not made it better."

8.

AN APPEAL TO THE MINERS.

ADDRESSED TO THEIR DELEGATES IN CONFERENCE AT EDINBURGH, OCTOBER 11th, 1887.

FELLOW WORKMEN,—

Though not a miner, I feel that no apology is needed in addressing you on the Labour Question. You are now too fully convinced of the identity of the interests of all workmen to refuse an impartial consideration to your representatives, advanced by one who is not of your own calling. The following words are addressed to you in the hope that they may be the means of inducing you and the half million of mining operatives whom you represent to look deeper into the Labour problem than you have been accustomed to do.

The very holding of this Conference, whatever its immediate results may be, is a step in the right direction. The interests of the 520,000