between them, because after all there are plenty of links between the idle appropriator of the labour of others and the worker in the factory system; the various managers, clerks, and foremen are the sweating machinery in this case, and many of these are of the working-class just as the sweating tailor is. It is true that the regulating of the process is now in the hands of two towers leaning towards each other at the top, on the one side the semblance of the shameless defence of it which is being made before the Lords' Commission, and the last link the poor sweater a specialty of the system, and a diage worse to our disgraceful slavery society. But the commission itself must repeat it again and again that all capitalistic production which is not purely individual, as the work of the doctor or the artist, is done by means of sweating in some form or other. We must take it on a lordly judgment, the testimony of the fact which gives some of the witnesses before the Lords' Commission courage to stand up and represent their horrible industry as a benefit to humanity; they cannot help feeling that the sympathy of the lords and noblemen on the Commission will be accorded to those respectable people who are performing the whole duty of modern man by making a profit, even if they are forced by circumstances to be the instruments of inflicting poverty upon others; for all this is broken by the Daily News on the match-girls, sees that is the necessary process of commercial production: in short, the respectable factory capitalist excuses the sweater, respectable or not. Doubtless the conclusion that will be expressed in the report of the Commission on Sweating will be that the evils of the system have been much exaggerated, that the worst form of it is not widespread, that the system, with whatever examination it is, is necessary for civilization and the benefit of humanity; all this probably in many words, and as a practical rider to one instance of the conclusion, not publicly opened, that we the commission recommend that something be pretended to be done to keep the town clean.

A friend of mine once expostulated with a hatter for the price he charged for his hats; the hatter had been dining, and wine inspired him to say the 'tallest hat of which I have ever had the pleasure to live in the style in which I do unless I charge you at least as high.'

This is really the conclusion which the Sweating Commission must come to. The misery of those who are sweated, whether by the drill of the factory or the market in the sweat of the brain, is the high price that we pay for the glory of sustaining a class of idle rich men.

Is the gain worth the price? Working men, it is for you to answer the question, and act according to your answer.

WILLIAM MORRIS.
end of this tragedy in Froissart’s own words as a dreadful little picture of mediaeval war: “Fire, faggots, and straw were set together round about the building, which was mounted up to the covering of the minister. There died the Ghentish men for that pain; for they were burnt quick, and such as issued out were slain and cast again into the fire. John Launoy who was in the steeple, seeing himself at the point to be burnt, let fall the bell used for striking the clock which was full of florins to save his life. But they without did but laugh and scorn at him, and said to him, ‘John, come out at some wise hour, we will speak with you, and we shall receive you; make a leap in like wise as you made to leap within a year; it is hoveth you to make this leap.’” When John Launoy saw himself in that point, and that he was without remedy and that the fire took him so fast, he said to the bell, “Be thou hallowed to his honor for him to be slain than to be burnt, and so he leapt out at a window among his enemies; and there he was received on spars and swords and with a few pieces. Thus ended John Launoy.

Peter du Bocage has not exactly fought at this battle that he was kept by a mash from helping. He once more drew off, and got into Ghent in good order, and it was a near thing that he did not share the fate of Jehu at the hands of the enraged people. But after all the Earl raised the siege and went back to Bruges. Skirmishing, however, still went on, and the Ghentish, after some successes, had another body of men cut up, 1,100 out of 1,200, says Froissart, and Arnold Crakke slain.

(To be continued.)

WILLIAM MORRIS.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

ITALY.

There is a slight stir in Italy just now over the scandalous lengths which various forms of women take in that country. In a recent number of Cremona observers in an article on the question, of all the infamous forms of usury, from the State establishments, Institutes of Credit, and the like, down to the little usurers of the little towns and the working folk and wretches from them in bad times one-fourth, one-third, and not seldom one-half of next year’s earnings, crops and produce of their labour. “In certain parts of Italy, especially in the south where the money circulation and commercial exchange are scanty on account of the poor means of transportation and communication, etc., money sometimes values itself at one-tenth, yes, and not uncommonly at one-third. No one protests against such an enormity, and the peasant of Calabria, who half through the winter borrows a half tari (50 lbs.) of grain has to return 2½ tari. He follows this with additional loan, and, and, without thinking, looks upon him as his benefactor.” And yet the working people prefer to pay such enormous prices to help them at a pinch to give up the Monte di Pietà personal payment (government payment), on which the interest is of course lower, or apparently so. The reason is that at these establishments they are made “benefactors,” and the interest of the money they have is regulated by the exigencies of the market, to the humiliation and exceeding torment of the needy, who shrink from official badgering (of which in truth they already have more than enough in that happy land); and prefer to it the handy band of the privateurer, putting behind them all thought of the future, too heavy and heart in mind and with the cares of to-day thinking of what may come upon next year or next month. Social reformers will talk of putting down usury by popular Institutes of Credit and the like philanthropic schemes, whereas growing Socialist ideas will soon show people that nothing less than nationalizing the moneyed property can do away with the foundation of what is courteously called the commercial system.

ARMENIA.—In consequence of the many and heavy fines on the weavers in a large cotton-factory here, they employed turned "nasty" and procreative, their consent for inhuman treatment, was an opponent; and, after doing their work, were left the works. The strikers are quiet and make no demonstrations of anger at present.

MILAN.—The strike of basket-makers still continues, the strikers receiving some help from various other trade associations, their Association being very common.

Eugène Châtelet’s Coop de Fain will be issued weekly from September 1 next. It was hitherto fortnightly.

Childebry, Ed. Leilé Socialettes, with the rather vague and impractical programme of uniting the Socialist parties, has made its first appearance, another paper of the same kind having failed not long ago.

Management.—Fouriére has sold the newspaper to the widow of the founder, Godin, into the hands of M. Dequenne, Madame Rambaud, M. Parfait, and M. Guizot. This establishment, like other similar experiments, is rather based on partnership or exchange-sharing than on any socialist system, and revelations made shortly after the death of M. Godin have shown how little the personal liberty of the workers employed therein is cared for.

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.

To replace some recently-suppressed papers, two new organs have been started in Vienna, the Austrian Internationale, edited by Adolph Bürgerschneider, an organ of the building trade (at Hamburg). It would be too monotonous to chronicle all arrests that took place recently at Hamburg, etc., and we present Londoners with the following details on the earnings of Siemens match-makers, recently published in the Sächsische Volkszeitung. The price of 1,000 is 7½c; if ordered in the batch of more than 200 boxes, 2½c. must be paid for by the worker himself. A woman with three children, who, up from their fifth year, work for four, the earning only eight or nine at night all the time they are out of school, may make 3,000 to 4,000 boxes in a week, and thus earn from 1a. 10d. to 2a. 10d. per week, from 6d., for instance, of a large meeting held at St. Ignatius, and May say they will transfer their factory to Norway or somewhere else, they are sure to find still cheaper labour than in the East-end of London.

Presss with a strong anti-monopoly even under threat, except that a few tricks of the employers may sometimes be repelled by industrial solidarities as the workers’ strike at Hamburg, where, in the great strike of the cabinet-makers and joiners, the masters sent for some hundred men from Holland. They went there, learned that they were wanted only for a week, and left them to the mercy of the factory owners, who were ready to use as they would and to refuse to take up any work under such circumstances.

DENMARK AND SWEDEN.

The Danish Socialist Democratic party has just edited a translation of "Capital" (473 pp., price 2 kroner) at the same time Dømel Niesiewicz’s Capitalism in the Social State, edited by Axel Danielson, editor of the Malmø Arbetet, already under sentence of one year’s imprisonment, has again been sentenced for blasphemy (2) to two years in a prison for labourers. The students’ union, and the paper which had so soon developed from a weekly into a thrice-a-week organ.

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

On August 12th-14th a congress of the Spanish Sociedad de Resistencia will be held at Barcelona, with the object of forming a new federalization of the said societies.

A Revolución Social has been published at Oporto.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Looking over the outworking of our Socialist move-ment is seen, we find discontent and revolt taking this or the other form spread everywhere. Besides small peasant riots in Roumania, Russia, Galicia, and Malagasy, for instance, of a large meeting held at St. Ignatius, and there the desire to protest against capitalism, and in particular some tramway company. Twenty-five cars were afterwards heaped together, ignited by petroleum, and burned. This shows how revolutionary the working classes are, whilst we were only aware of a Socialist agitation at Buenos Ayres, Monte-verde, and Rio de Janeiro. In the latter we are informed that the Chinese workmen are reported. The freight-carriers at Shanghai and the dock labourers at Hong-kong struck work; the taxes at Shanghai having been remitted, and the tax-farmers determined to benefit. The diagrams and data brought to the employer—at Hongkong, were the immediate reasons. The Chinese coolies are not at all without feelings of solidarity, as is generally the case here, but they have a lot of trouble. The Chinese assembly formed last year at New York by Chinese workers, but we know little of what China itself is doing. Many Chinese workers have been placed in the better conditions and has been found that English workers will not accept, and in this country, as previously elsewhere, we may learn from this uncivilised peoples, at any rate, to strike boldly at the exploiters who represent the system, instead of begging for political and even very small social reform, is generally done.

An intelligent lad of 14 or 15 asked a friend of ours if he would be so good as to give him a little information on the subject of politics; because, said he, the only information I can get about them is from the newspapers. On the mouth of the same proposer, however, is a weekly paper—Metropolitan Pauperism.—The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers relieved in the first week of the year was 1,430,000. There were 23 such packages for the weekly paupers. The total number relieved showed an increase of 2,884 over the corresponding week of last year, 5,333 over 1886, and 6,772 over 1885. The total number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 593, of whom 006 were men, 178 women, and 17 children under sixteen.