The beginning of the country Thames was always beautiful and we slipped between the lovely summer greens I almost felt you could come back to me, and as if I were on one of those water excursions which I used to enjoy so much in days when I was too happy to think that there could be such a place.

At last we came to a reach of the river where on the left hand a very pretty little village with some old houses in it came down to the edge of the water, over which was a ferry; and beyond these houses the heaviest masses of mist were folded in a fringe of tall willows, and the right hand went the tow-path and a space nearly clear of trees, which rose up behind huge and ancient, the ornaments of a great park: but there was back from the river the end of this as to make way for a little town of quaint and pretty houses, some new, some old, dominated by the long and sharp gables of a great red-brick pile of building, partly of the latest Gothic, partly of the Court style of Dutch Water, but so blended by the beauty of its surroundings, including the bright blue river, that it looked down upon, that even amidst the beautiful buildings of that new happy day I had a strange old-world feeling, and amidst which the lime-tree blossom was clearly to be distinguished, came down to us from its unseen gardens, as Clara sat up in her place, and said:

"O Dick, dear, couldn't we stop at Hampton Court for to-day, and take the guest about the park a little and show him those sweet old buildings? Somewhom, I suppose because you have lived so near it, you have seldom taken me to Hampton Court."

Dick rested on his heels a little, and said: "Well, well, Clara, you are lazy to-day. I didn't feel like stopping short of Shepperton to-day: suppose we just go and have our dinner at the Court, and go on again about five o'clock."

"Well," she said, "so be it; but I should like the guest to have spent an hour or two in the Park."

But the Park, as I have said, the whole Thames side is this park at the time of the year; and for my part, I had rather lie under an elm-tree on the borders of a wheat-field, with the bees humming about me and the corn-cake crying from farow to farow, than in any park in England."

Besides, she said, "you want to get on to your dearly-loved upper Thames, and show your prowess down the heavy swathes of the marsh."
July 12, 1909.

THE COMMONWEAL.

NOTES ON NEWS.

POLICE and Guards in revolt! Surely the whole Governmental machine is going to pieces. Even the practical middle-class man is beginning to wonder. "Are we in the verge of a Revolution?" The middle-class may indeed shake in their shoes when they consider the mood of the people in mutiny. They always thought they could depend upon the Guards, though they could trust no other regiment in London. They have now found they were mistaken.

There is a lull in the trouble for a moment, but there can be very little doubt it will break out again; and the respectable classes must shudder when they think that the damping of the revolution could not be in the hands of the police.

Bravo Leeds! Your people have shown that the men of the North have not lost their manhood in the ever-widening circle of commercial civilisation. Nor has the "peace at any price" cant of the bucksters of the Manchester school influenced the men, in whose veins runs the blood of the working classes, and to whom the danger is a pastime, and sought in battle the pleasure which all the class of thieves who lie and adulterate can never find in the smallest bargain. The men of Leeds have gained a victory. But how! Not by listening to the "law-and-order" people. The Trade Unionists who have taken the strongest objection to "violence" outside Ireland, or even by paying much attention to the middle-class emigration into the squab and political Socialists.

It is true that a juvenile contemporary of ours, with that simplicity peculiar to innocent youth, says that "the gas workers have achieved nothing, merely gained peace of mind and made a solid profit in their work." Yes, the gas workers will be remembered as the best organized of the unions; and the men of Leeds have learned that a financial crisis is very probable in the autumn. What will become of the middle-classes when that crisis comes? I believe it is likely they will try the "emotive" emigration of "the surplus population" to a much warmer climate.

William Morris.

TO BE CONTINUED.

(This Story began in No. 209, January 11, 1890. A few sets of Book Numbers can still be had.)

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

GERMANY.

The close similarity between the English trade-unionist and the German and Austrian Social-Democratic movements is illustrated by the fact that both have undergone of late the same successes, difficulties, and trials, and neither has been able to gain much to the other's advantage. In England the success was the dockers' strike, in Germany the election of Keitel and in Austria the May Day demonstrations. They were all followed by a period of optimism, but it was not long before it was discovered that they believed they had found the remedy, and that by capitalist reaction, when threatened by the men workers congratulating themselves on their law and order and love. This was followed by defeats of the workers and a great deal of unpleasant quarrelling and disunion, etc. Only here, Socialists worthy their name kept aloof from these ephemeral events, and the people who returned to the workers who kept up unfinished the revolutionary propaganda. In Germany and Austria, where the Social-Democrats stand in the midst of these struggles and squabbles, and other parties seeking gaining ground, the present, however much the official mouthpieces of the leaders may deny this or insist on the expansion and the realities it or the loss of the May Day affair, as some persons nearer home about the strike last year. They got frightened at the decisive moment, and "proclaim" the理论 making out that the German racketeers means the mass debate of the masses for more advanced than their pretended "liberty." A part, however, stuck to the holiday; the result was lamentable. The last half measures, which only encouraged the bourgeois to advance further and the few on who were cowardly deserted by the great mass. Hamburg was forewarning of and so great distress prevails there among the Socialists, great numbers of them having been sacked, strikes being lost, etc. Berlin, to give another example, during the brewers' strike such brewers were on the streets. The socialist locals Socialists had decided; but the official chief who still hold the local daily paper did all they could to discourage this boycott, and so it fell through. Much ill-feeling is provoked by this, and a large representation of the brewers did not succeed in leading it. In view growing feeling of independence of the workers, who are angry at being humiliated by the leaders. In the same way, the chief Austrian organ of the Social-Democrats thinks the strike could be a turning point in the matter. Of course, the workers should content themselves for a time by living on the money they have just made. But it is not enough of a demand. Here also an opposition is rising. It is certain that the approaching depression of the trade, the breaking up of trade organisations, and the confused demagogic escapades of the leaders, which the Germans call a "front" movement, which will open the eyes of the many to the truth of the Revolutionary and Anarchist ideas.

JAPAN.

It appears that Socialist and Anarchist ideas begin to spread among the natives of Japan. Some information on this subject has been published by Dr. J. Hoffmann, of Yokohama. He claims that workers who visited Japan last year. Some time ago a secret radical society was organised by Tani Tōkichi, who was imprisoned for this for three years. This society is called "Austrian Socialists." Hoffmann, who is very careful and moderate in their propaganda, owing to the despotism they live under, has recently sent for their aim is Anarchist-Communism. A paper called "Austria" was published for one and three-quarter years, and then prohibited. Since then "Yūyō" (Freedom) was started (since December 13, 1899), published from Yokohama, but no full copy being holographed till the funds will allow to buy. This movement seems to be more under the influence of European Socialist than under that of the native Socialists of Eastern Asia, who have especially vigorous in China. We hail this movement as a new link in the world-wide chain of the Socialist brotherhood.

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The most nostrinating incident on Saturday was the ease way in which the mounted police accepted some copies of the Commonweal from a young comrade. We hope in neatly to digest it. Then perhaps they may repent and be saved while there is yet time. N.