place, the last-named cleric appeared to the infuriated and betrayed strikers to accept their fate as the will of God. So that God, it appeared, had prepared for the dock-companies and their strikers with disfavour (please note, my unionist friends who are so fond of hobnobbing with sky-pilots).

On Tuesday, the men could have secured possession of the dock if proper and proper care had been taken. Dick and his gang had blanched together. But the leaders took the courage out of the men, and after a struggle that had lasted barely four days, McCarthy made the hideous blunder and practical confession of defeat by his appearance as an open-air meeting in company with a cleric as a deputation to the Dock Company “to see,” as he feebly put it, “what they would do,” and they having seen his hand would do nothing—not even allude to peace.

During his absence on this bootless errand, I took occasion to address the men on Socialism. I got an immense reception, for a great number of the men had been unable to hear McCarthy’s weak voice, and whilst I was speaking with my burning message of his failure, and fearing, I suppose, that I should alienate his followers, he mounted a seat and denounced me. I had desisted from speaking upon his return. I owe it to the impression I created that I was not subjected to personal violence through his action. Mr. McCarthy has mistaken his vocation; he would no doubt be able to marshal a small Sunday-school treat, and come out of the ordeal with flying colours; but a Labour leader he is not a failure.

Tom Walsh made a better show; he denounced the tactical blunder that McCarthy made in going unsolicited to the Company, and showed his contempt for the parasitical reporters by telling them he liked them better than his followers.

The Sailor’s Union had come out on sympathy with the dockers, and for the recognition of their union. The subsequent collapse brought in McCarthy and Co., has placed the sailors in a difficult position. They are determined to have a union recognised, and as they are strong enough to boycott the port they are to be reckoned with.

I have heard the sailors here known as the seafarers; they are a hardy and courageous set. They were prominent in all the skirmishes that took place, and they furnished nearly all the fun. They burnt handlights in the streets to fool the police and military, and when they were dispersed, they were dispersed.

The leaders, having got into a moral muddle, denounced these frisky lads, although they too were out with the men strikers, and even went as far as to urge on the men to go by force. With a strong hand, I confess that my admiration for these lads rose in proportion as they incurred the displeasure of the parson-loving leaders.

To summarise. Some £6,000 have been lost to the men in wages; several men are in prison; a great number have been stabbed or bludgeoned, and the point fought for has been lost. Of course, Labour will eventually have also to bear the cost of the movements of troops, police, &c., and the broken windows of the Mayor. I heard the epithet of “looters” and “tramps” applied to those outside the New Unionism by the suddenly made Aristocrats of Labour. It is a fatal mistake. The proper classes are preparing for a mighty struggle, in which the Southwell Morris may be of use to them. The marching and countermarching, the proclamation in the name of our Southern Lady the Queen to keep the peace, etc., are but the pattering rain-spots before the storm. It is not the time to use harsh words in regard to those who are out of work, but we must urge them and assist them; and least of all should the men in command of the forces of Labour join in the abuse of the residue. If on no higher ground than policy, it is a tactical mistake to turn the unmanned mass into a reactionary force at the possible disposal of the enemy.

F. K. V.

NEWS FROM NOWHERE:

or,

AN EPOCH OF REST.

BEING SOME CHAPTERS FROM A UTOPIAN ROMANCE.

CHAP. XXVIII.—THE JOURNEY’S END.

On we went. It’s spite of my new-born excitement about Ellen, and uglier. We really had rather not lose the abundant interest in the condition of the river and its banks; all the more as she never seemed weary of the changing picture, but looked at every yard of flowery bank and gurgling eddy with the same kind of interest as if it were a self-birthed gift of God. We proposed to go to the rhine for a while, as we thought, and perhaps had not altogether lost even in this strangely changed society with all its wonders. Ellen seemed delighted with my pleasure at this, that, or the other piece of scenery; and dealing with the river was a matter of course to us; the ingenuity of dealing with difficulties of water-engineering, so that the most obviously useless works looked beautiful and natural also. All this, I say, pleased me both figuratively and literally. I am pleased also to say that I was at this time as well pleased as I have been at any time. I have been pleased, and I am pleased, with many pleasures.

"You seem astonished," she said, just after we had passed a mill which spanned all the stream save the water-way for traffic, but which...
TRADE UNIONIST TACTICS.

HAVING spent a week as a listener to the proceedings of the Liverpool Trades Congress, I may perhaps report briefly thereon. Leaving to others any comment on the reactionistic and pettifogging nature of much of the business done, I desire to make clear to readers of the Commercialist a few of the most significant things that happened.

First, their evident adherence to red-tape was worthy of a vestry. A Standing Orders Committee is elected before which all resolutions must pass, and when we have a resolution defeated it is of course supposed, they have to manage it to refer to the committee to take its chance in the ballot. Thus a resolution that the delegates of the insurance agents should be admitted was adroitly delayed by this procedure until the last day of the Congress, when—of course—nothing was said. On every possible pretext men with the mark of the vestry on their brow rose to “points of order,” and many resolutions were thus shelved. Then the rampant intolerance of the Congress merit notice. No representatives of a minority had tiny chances of being heard, and this applies not only to the Socialists present, but to any representative of an unpopular cause. When a Socialist dared to suggest there was an immediate bowl, and that which some of them desired to oppose were summarily passed without a word of opposition being audible. For snobbery no gathering of grocers could have beaten this democratic assembly. While Macdonald (London) was shouted down, as described already in the Commercialist, the Congress actually cheered Fenwick, M. P., when he explained that Macdonald had not explained his resolution! On the other hand, Burns (who is influential) was allowed to determine which Macdonald had not been allowed to propose.

Money is as much a god here as on the Stock Exchange, and it was sickening to hear these curbs laugh derisively when it was stated that John Williams raised a loan in London for distribution among some body for these succumbing capitalists. The voting papers for the election of the committee opposite to each name the which its owner’s society had subscribed to the funds—as though this was any better idea of a method of assessing the forces for a resolution than the head were accused of being “sweaters,” delegates positively fought for an opportunity of whitewashing that firm, while the so-called labour members were chosen to go to the office of “office of being political back.” In fact, while the delegates found Burns, Tillett, and Mann too strong to be entirely “burked,” they took it out of Quech, Williams, and the rest of the Socialists to make sure that “now? There is no god but Gladstone, and Donkin hurst is his prophet!”

P. 

Reviews.


Comrade Carruthers has written a tract upon what used to be once called the Damned Science, which, strange to say, is not damned, the Commercialist, the Congress actually cheered Fenwick, M. P., when he explained that Macdonald had not explained his resolution! On the other hand, Burns (who is influential) was allowed to determine which Macdonald had not been allowed to propose. Money is as much a god here as on the Stock Exchange, and it was sickening to hear these curbs laugh derisively when it was stated that John Williams raised a loan in London for distribution among some body for these succumbing capitalists. The voting papers for the election of the committee opposite to each name the which its owner’s society had subscribed to the funds—as though this was any better idea of a method of assessing the forces for a resolution than the head were accused of being “sweaters,” delegates positively fought for an opportunity of whitewashing that firm, while the so-called labour members were chosen to go to the office of “office of being political back.” In fact, while the delegates found Burns, Tillett, and Mann too strong to be entirely “burked,” they took it out of Quech, Williams, and the rest of the Socialists to make sure that “now? There is no god but Gladstone, and Donkin hurst is his prophet!”

P.

‘Our Social System; and How It affects those who work for their living.’ By David Anderson. Published by David Andrews, Sydney Road, North Brunswick, Melbourne.

A most damaging criticism of our present society from the Individualist- Anarchist standpoint. The following are extracts from the pamphlet:

"Our Social System; and How It affects those who work for their living."

"Our Social System; and How It affects those who work for their living."

"The moral of the pamphlet to the English worker is, 'Don't go to Australia,' for you will find that the labourer is no better off than he is in England. Nothing but the death of the capitalist monopoly can ever free the workers of the world from over-work, robbery, and starvation."