

THE RISING TIN STAR.

An American Industrial Planet Starts the Mosbacks of Europe,

AND FILLS SWANSEA WITH GLOOM.

Waning Furnace Fires Abroad an Epic on Protection's Power.

FEELING THE TIN PLATE PULSE.

A Sorry Prospect for the Metal Monopolists of England.

GLIMPSES OF SWANSEA VALLEY.

Its Covering Industries and General Characteristics—Workingmen's Wages and Homes—The Postal Service and Salaries.

SWANSEA, South Wales, July 5, 1891.—[Editorial Correspondence.]—From Craig-y-Nos to Swansea, a distance of twenty-four miles by the Midland railway, the Swansea valley recalls the picturesque scenery and industrial activity on the line of the Lehigh Valley railroad in Pennsylvania with its successive hills and valleys, rolling with coal mines, and the begrimed coal diggers are encountered at every station and cross road. In fact the population of the whole valley is chiefly made up of colliers, iron workers and tin plate makers. Villages and towns range from 1,500 to 10,000 population, are strung upon the hills and reach every five or six miles the whole length of the valley, and everywhere are iron forges, foundries and smelting works, with glowing furnaces and smoking stacks. Swansea, next to Cardiff the largest city in Wales, has a population of over 100,000 and is the chief center of the tin plate industry in the world. It is a fact of the whole world. Facing the sea, which washes the chalky cliffs that flank the entrance to its harbor, Swansea occupies a commanding position on the plateau and high cliffs overlooking the broadest part of the valley. Hundreds of high stacks and

of quality inferior to our Pennsylvania coal. The smelting works and

Tin Plate Factories

of Swansea are not accessible to outsiders. By the courtesy and assistance of Mr. Charles Peel, nephew of Sir Robert Peel, whose hospitality I enjoyed at his beautiful home near Yafford yesterday, I was enabled to procure some interesting facts and permitted to view a portion of the largest smelters. Mr. Peel himself is part owner of several extensive steel rolling mills and tin plate factories. The works of Vivian & Co., established by Sir Hassey Vivian, are by all odds the most extensive in Swansea. They are the largest smelting and refining works in the world. The Vivian reduction works are divided into three separate plants. One for copper, one for cobalt and nickel and one for copper and silver. These plants run night and day and employ over 3,000 workmen.

Mr. Nettell, the manager, is very well informed about the tin mining industries and the American smelting works. Almost the first question he asked me was how the new Peck rolling process for which so much was claimed was working at the Omaha and Grant works. Mr. Nettell has great faith in the South Dakota tin mines and expressed the opinion that they would become large tin producers to Swansea tin plate men at no distant day.

"Swansea tin plate men have only themselves to blame for the prospective check to their industry by the McKinley tariff," said Mr. Nettell. "Swansea had every advantage, cheap labor and cheap fueling of workmen, but the tin makers have allowed themselves to be flanked. The danger is not so much in the high tariff but a very low tariff, or abolition of the duty on the tin which is bound to come when American tin plate factories are extensive enough to enter the field as competitors in foreign countries."

Mr. Peel himself

Takes a Rather Gloomy View

of the outlook for Swansea iron and tin works. One steel works, Peel & Co., turn out 1,200 tons of steel into tin plate a month. All the tin plate factories have agreed to shut down next week and remain closed for one month and some may remain closed for the season. Very heavy shipments have recently been made to America in anticipation of the higher duty on tin plate which goes into effect July 1.

"But I fear," said Mr. Peel, "we will have depression in our industries as long as the high tariff remains. If we shut down our tin plate factories there is no demand for our iron and tin products."

Every prominent man in Swansea whom I met expressed his opinion to the effect that prospective dimensions of the American tin and tin industries.

"We will have to patronize Australia for corn, beef and other farm products," exclaimed a mill man, "if Americans are going to force us to pay the tin duty on canned articles."

Wages Paid.

I talked with quite a number of working men at the smelters and mills and made such inspection of their dwellings as was possible in a few hours. Common laborers at Swansea mills and factories receive from 3 shillings to 3 1/2 shillings (75 to 87 1/2 cents) a day. Smelters and foundries 30 shillings to 35 shillings (75.00 to \$8.15) per month. Tin makers \$10 (\$50 to \$11.85) per month. Moulders and foundrymen work nine hours a day. The Vivian & Co. smelting works divide their day into three shifts of eight hours each. Boys get from 8 to 9 shillings (\$2 to \$2.25) per week. Some of the foundrymen in the tin plate mills and foundries 30 shillings to 35 shillings (75 cents to 87 1/2 cents) a week, and board themselves of course. There are 150 women employed in one tin factory that I visited, and so far as I could judge from their appearance and dress, they will compare favorably with average factory hands in America. In Swansea tin plate factories, mills and foundries have 10 cents (10 cents) deducted from their wages every week, 3 pence for medical attendance, which includes their families, and 2 pence for schooling.

The Collar Throwing.

"They also throw in the collar if any of us dies," remarked one workman grimly, "and the collar is home-made in the factory."

How They Live.

Workmen in Swansea and the colliers at the coal mines live in blocks of tenements, built of stone, which can be quarried every where in this region. These tenements are owned by the company and workmen pay from 2 1/2 to 3 shillings (62 1/2 to 75 cents) a week for their rent. These houses are usually two stories high with a frontage of about sixteen feet and depth of twenty-four to thirty-nine feet. The front room on the ground floor serves as a kitchen and dining room, and is usually paved with stone slabs or brick. The rear room is a pantry, coal and store room for vegetables, coal, etc. One or two chambers above floored with pine boards, are used as bed rooms. The rooms although tidy and clean are sparsely furnished, the floors bare of carpet or even a piece of matting. The furniture, what there is of it, is usually respectable. In one of the tenement houses, the most thrifty doubtless, manage to have a display of flowering plants in the windows and exhibit their taste in a few chromes on the wall and ornamental window curtains. In talking with the women I was assured that they were

For the Most Part Content.

"My boy, seventeen years old," said one, "works in the mill and he earns 13 shillings (\$3.25) a week."

"What do you pay for meat?"

"We get lamb chops for 1 shilling (25 cents) a pound. Mutton is cheaper in England and Wales than beef or other meats."

"Do you have meat every day?"

"Not every day, but quite often."

Boards and lodging for workmen, such as it can be had for from \$2.50 to \$4 a week.

The nightmare of Swansea workmen just now is the impending lockout. If it continues very long they will be reduced to terrible straits. The best paid laborer in South Wales is the collier. The scale is by the ton and mill owners say that coal mines are earning a 100 per cent more now than they did ten years ago. How much the highly paid collier earns I am not yet informed.

E. ROSKOPF.

WEATHER FORECAST.

For Omaha and vicinity—Fair; warmer.

Washington, July 18.—Forecast till 8 p. m. Sunday: For North and South Dakota—Fair; slightly warmer south.

For Iowa and Nebraska—Fair; slightly warmer Sunday night; variable winds, becoming southerly.

For Missouri and Kansas—Fair Sunday; warmer Sunday night; variable winds.

For Colorado—Fair Sunday; stationary temperature; slightly cooler at Montrose; south winds.

SITUATION IN THE HOUSE.

Leaders of That Body Engaged Elsewhere at Present.

COMPARISON OF LEGISLATIVE METHODS.

Advantages Claimed for the English System Over That of the American Republic—Three Great Men.

[Copyright 1891 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, July 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to The Bee.]—The house of commons is just now bereft of three of its leading men, Gladstone, Smith and Morley. Fortunately the business in hand is of a routine character or these gaps would be severely felt.

The speaker of the house of representatives of the United States, who paid us a visit Friday, only had an opportunity of seeing us engaged in committee work which, in the United States is done quite differently by committee. He looked on with interest and had the pleasure of listening to some of our most colossal pores who have a clear field before them when money votes are on. Hitherto Palt has refused to delegate the responsibility of dealing with the public money to any smaller body than a committee of the whole house, but a feeling is growing up in favor of the United States system. Mr. Reid had some conversation on this subject with Sir William Harcourt and several other members during his visit. I think that he does not look with disfavor on the English method of dealing with financial affairs. It is a feeling that the public purse in the hands of the house itself instead of elevating a few of its members into great importance and removing many questions of interest to the taxpayer from the arena of open discussion. Mr. Reid was introduced by a thorough going radical, Philip Stanhope, brother of the existing war, who is an extreme Tory. Philip is in favor of abolishing most of the existing institutions. Edward, the secretary, having a high office and £5,000 a year, naturally desires to maintain things as they are. Neither will he see his desires fully realized.

Three Great Englishmen.

It is to be regretted that Reid could not have seen and heard Gladstone, who still remains our greatest parliamentarian, but he is invalided at Lowestoft, and Morley is at Cromer, and our own beloved Smith is confined to his house. The most distinguished member of the house of commons is Lord Balfour of Burleigh, who is 60 years of age and is one of the few members of the house who are not overworked. Of course he is immensely rich and need not work any longer, but all we know that duty is Smith's first and last consideration. The last time I saw him was on the day the German emperor went to the city. He was dressed in a black coat and a brilliant uniform of blue gold but he seemed scarcely able to stand up and last Sunday at Hatfield broke him down, for, in my opinion, he will not be seen in the house of commons again. We shall have Balfour in his place next session, nobody standing in his way. Lord Balfour is a Scotchman, once blocked his path, but he has flung away the last rags of his reputation by his most indiscreet journey to south Africa. He has gone there practically in the employment of a financial syndicate which will use him and his reports for speculative purposes. How could he be a great minister of the crown who has farmed himself out to the stock exchange? Moreover, he has sent back letters to the Graphic, which have either been the wonder or ridicule of all London. People wonder what can be the matter with him and they can go on wondering, but meanwhile he is falling out of the house of commons.

Balfour Gaining in Popularity.

Balfour has gained all that he has lost. Politicians with bad temper and feeble judgments might profitably study the career of Randolph Churchill. Lord Salisbury is for Churchill was a thorn in his side. The prime minister could never be sure of receiving common civility from his former subordinate. Even at the cabinet council there was often a scene. Now that the marquis has everything his own way some people may complain that he is trying to minister to the family party but Balfour has proven his fitness for high office. He has shown that he is a man who can be trusted.

Who can say that he is a former leader and rival? The tools go to the man who knows how to use them. Even the Irish party have gotten over their bitterness toward Balfour. They recognize in him a stout but not malignant foe. In the course of next week they will give him a good roasting over Irish money votes. Tim Healey and Sexton will keep him lively.

I believe there will be a great row over the continued imprisonment of O'Brien and Dillon. The coercion act having been suffered to lapse, why not release the chief men who were deprived of their liberty under it? Balfour will be subjected to a lesson that night. In one of the tenement houses, the Irish party look to find their future leader, Justin McCarthy having quite given up. His health and inclination alike forbid a longer hold upon a position he never coveted. I have not seen him in the house for weeks past.

Sexton has been kicking the boys together. Dillon's health is also far from strong, and the leadership would soon break him down. Thus the conservatives, Gladstonians and Irishmen are all in want of a leader.

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

FAIR COMMISSION AT WORK.

Flooding All Europe with Literature.

[Copyright 1891 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, July 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to The Bee.]—London is full of American commissioners who are preparing to launch themselves upon Europe. Two sets of world's fair commissioners have arrived, and are ready to start on their journey for their glorious country, which invites other nations to show their products and at the same time passes laws to keep products out. Tons of literature are on hand and statistical statements will drift over the continent like autumn leaves.

The battle of Moscow P. Haman's typewriter keeps time to the rolling sentences of General Butterworth. The world's fair in Europe has been all wild so far. Today the Lord Mayor of London invited the commission to lunch next week at the Mansion house. Attorney General Webster has invited them to dine at his house of commons. Sir George Hayton Chubb also invited them to dine. Handy told me today that the commission would stay here nearly two weeks and then follow a fixed route on the continent. He had hundreds of propositions in his handbag from exhibitors to

GREAT FETE WEEK IN PARIS.

Decorations Better Than Ever, Though the Review was Not.

AMERICAN BUNCO STEERERS ABROAD.

Mysterious Death of a Beautiful Young Lady—Reported to Be the Work of Jack the Ripper.

[Copyright 1891 by James Gordon Bennett.]

PARIS, July 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to The Bee.]—The fine weather was a feature of our great fete week. Some where about thirty thousand country people came to Paris to participate in the national rejoicing on the fourteenth. They plodded all over town, took possession of every public seat and camped there. The decorations were better than ever though the review was not so good as last year and there were fewer men present. A feature of the decoration was the enormous number of star-spangled flags.

Now Paris is almost deserted, and were it not for the influx of American visitors trades people would have a hard time.

Bunco Steerers at Work.

Many bunco steerers found their way over here during the present week. Two Americans suffered at the Hotel de Ville. The first was Charles Dresbach, an American lawyer who met a fellow citizen on the Boulevard and the latter asked him for a light. The pair got into a conversation and walked down the avenue together to the Hotel de Louvre, where they had a drink. They were then joined by another American with a pronounced Irish accent who introduced himself. The three returned to the boulevard and ordered dinner at a private room at the Maison Dore, a well-known restaurant. When the champagne began to flow the Irish-American stated that he had just inherited a fortune of \$500,000. He is apparently ignorant of the present outcry in London over the first experiences with Russian Jews and the efforts to ship them to America.

In this connection I learned that the British government has placed a sudden check on immigration from the Yorkshire plumb manufacturing district to Brazil, owing to the fearful accounts of suffering among English men and women in Santos, Parahiba, Rio and elsewhere. This immigration was caused by the fact that the Yorkshire plumb makers are sending some of their despatch riders to some other remote districts.

Byron Reed, member of parliament, is assisting the unfortunate.

It is now certain that George Parker committed suicide by hanging himself today that Parker wrote to his wife, Mrs. Hamilton, to come to London. In his last letter he said that if she did not come he would kill himself. Mrs. Hamilton did not like Whitman, Parker's friend, and he came to London. The revolver with which Parker killed himself was found in her hand. When she saw the body she threw her hands and cried, "Oh, why did I come," then sobbed, "Oh, why did I come." All suspicions of foul play have been exploded. Isolation, drink and the tardiness of his mistress drove the released prisoner to death. His flashy and dissipated life was the cause of his death. He is in despair and does not know what to do.

Now that the emperor has gone London concert halls are ringing with songs burlesquing the Germans. A lovely story about the emperor's visit has just leaked out. Miss Tennant, a famous London horse woman, made a bet that she would dance at the state ball. It caused a sensation among the society people who heard of it, as nobody dreamed that it was possible even for such a beautiful and daring young woman to dance with the emperor. The story is that she was riding up Hotten Row in Hyde park at a furious rate. It was a glorious sight. She met the emperor and his full staff, on horseback also. Two officers who knew her joined the beautiful horsewoman, and she turned and followed the emperor. Suddenly Miss Tennant's horse grew frantic. No one knew of the sword blade spur secretly driving the animal to madness. With a mighty leap in the air the horse rushed towards the emperor and came within a few inches of knocking him over the saddle. Miss Tennant rode to the rescue, and the emperor, muffled apologies and blushed. The young monarch poured out compliments and rode by her side for some time, then raised his hat, bade her good-bye and said he would see her at the ball that night. Victory seemed secure. The gentlemanly horse was ordered to stand promise for one-half. Miss Tennant was so confident, however, that she refused. When night came she attended the ball and so did the emperor, but he never even looked at her.

A newly made grave at Chester contained the body of William North, Thatcher, agent of the Southwestern Docks Police. She is one of London's sensations just now.

The number of Americans in the metropolis seems larger than ever, although the rush home has begun. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Logan, Jr., sailed on Wednesday with a party which has been making the trip through Europe. They shipped a dozen new hand harkneys which Mr. Logan purchased for a ranch out west. The same day saw the shipment of a number of harkneys collected for Seward Webb, among them several prize winners. So many blooded animals are going to America that it looks as if the New England horse market is a thing of the past. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Martin leave in a few days for Baltimore. They will entertain many visitors there.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Le Grand Cannon are to stay in London a few days, then go to the continent and return to America in October. A large number of Americans will be present at the marriage of Miss Faber Leith to Captain Charles Brown on Wednesday and several royalties will attend. The presents are superb.

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INVITED TO A CONFERENCE.

American Consul General in Germany Requested to Get Together.

MCKINLEY BILL WILL BE DISCUSSED.

Lord Salisbury's Adhesion to the Triple Alliance Made for the Protection of English Interests in Egypt.

[Copyright 1891 by New York Associated Press.]

BRUSSELS, July 18.—Mr. Edwards, the American consul general here, has invited all the American consuls in Germany to a conference in this city with Herr Verwilt, the imperial commissioner of the McKinley bill to be held in Chicago. The consular body will also meet the American commission which is now in England. Numerous public receptions are being arranged to be held during the presence of the commission in Germany. Mr. Edwards hopes through the consular conference and public meetings to disregard the German tariff. The conference is to regard the severity of the McKinley bill. Consular statistics on the operation of the tariff will be published in order to show that the McKinley bill is not inspired by hostility against foreign trade, but that it is mainly intended to encourage American manufacturers.

Mr. Edwards proposes to facilitate the labors of the American commission by centralizing the sources of information concerning German industries. Herr Von Bismarck, the Prussian minister of commerce, will be the first minister to receive the commission. The members of the consular body will be given receptions by Herr Miguel, minister of justice, Chancellor Van Capri, and probably the emperor will give them an audience.

Lord Salisbury's adhesion to the triple alliance appears to have been made with due regard to the protection of English interests in Egypt and India. The emperor, the emperor and Herr Von Bismarck, Prussian minister of state, with Lord Salisbury has materially altered the whole course of German foreign policy. Only a partial indication of the drift of the entente cordiale at Hatfield house has transpired, but enough is known to show that the emperor and Lord Salisbury obtained assurances from the emperor that the Franco-Russian projects against England's possessions in the east will be met with open opposition. The emperor and Lord Salisbury have established a round, the arrangement ending at an Asiatic as well as a European quadrilateral. The emperor's opinion here concurs that Lord Salisbury has done the best of the bargain, securing a positive check upon French schemes against the Egyptian occupation of the Sudan, and the emperor in India without committing England to armed intervention in support of Germany.

The latest rumor regarding attempts upon the life of the emperor, which rumor causes momentary terror in St. Petersburg, was that an officer had tried to murder the emperor with a revolver. The emperor was not hurt, but the officer was wounding himself in a forest chopping trees when the head of the axe flew off and struck the emperor in the face and wounded him. The emperor went to the assistance of the wounded man and got some blood on his hands and clothes. An officer of the guard appeared and thought the emperor in danger. He called upon his soldiers to rescue his majesty, and before an explanation could be made the emperor was shot down by the overzealous soldier. The emperor caused the officer to be punished for his act.

It is officially announced that general commanding the second, fourth, seventh, eighth and ninth army corps will be placed on the reserve list. The general commanding the first army corps is only partly excused by his age. General Baron Von Moller is only sixty-six and General Adolph von Seldene is only sixty and the others are still equipped with vigor of mind and body.

Congregational Council.

LONDON, July 18.—The feature of the week's session of the International Congregational council was the address of Rev. Dr. Walker of Melbourne, who delivered a remarkable address among Congregationalists. Dr. Walker said he would rather drift toward the Church of England or to the church of Rome than toward Unitarianism. There should be no fraternizing with Unitarianism.