FREE TRADE MISERY. Nathaniel McKay Tells of His Tour Through British Manufacturing Centers.

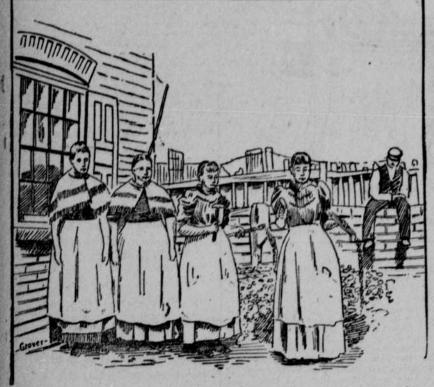
PEEP AT POVERTY IN LONDON.

Working Women at Masculine Labor -Stern Facts for Our Wage Earners.

Free-trade slavery still exists in the British empire notwithstanding the re-duction of the American tariff, which benefits the English manufacturer, but does not reach the British workman. Eight years ago I visited England for the purpose of studying the condition of

Therefore, "These contractes for solution of the solution o

Wealth and Poverty Mixed.



Chainmakers of Cradley Heath earning from \$1.20-1.59 per week, working ten hours per day. Taken August 26, 1896, by N. McKay.

Taken Angust 26, 1896, by N. McKay. the working people and comparing their wages with those of Americans. Four prars ago I made a second visit for the ame purpose and on August 12, 1896, I left New York, for the third time, to make another investigation. I arrived in Manchester on August 20 and there began my investigation, where I found more destitution than I had ever seen in any other city. The "Cesspool" of Manchester. Standing, looking up Angel mendow, a graveyard on the left and behind one of the worst "courts" in Great Britan, build houses of course, and all around the source of the sourc

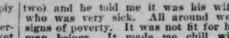
The "Caspool" of Manchester. Standing, looking up Angel meadow, for the worst "courts" in Great Britain population struggling in the ocean of moral and social degradation, it has population struggling in the ocean of moral and social degradation, it has the crime, drunkenness, riot, cruelty diddated, and many are villainous poles, unventilated, undrained, corrupt, raking with smells, utterly infamous and the within a few minutes' walk and this within a few minutes' walk and this within a few minutes' walk and a Queen's hotel, the Exchange and a Warst and the social of the social of the social of the social the moral of the social of the social of the social of the social the social of the social of the social of the social of the social the social of the soc

state department.

state department. We manufacture similar goods in America, but on account of the Wilson tariff bill we have been deprived of the chance to manufacture them, and the money which should have been paid to our own working people has been paid to the laboring people of Great Britain. Our chimneys have ceased smoking, while theirs are in full blast. Our working people are idle and deprived of a living on account of this iniquitous, free trade, Wilson tariff.

Business Thrives in Birmingham,

Business Thrives in Birmingham. I left Bradford on August 24 for Bir-mingham, passing through Leeds and Sheffield, whose iron and steel works are in full blast. Not only in these places, but all over England, this line of in-dustry is prospering. And the factories are running full time, and the greater part of their product is shipped to the United States. And while their works



asked her name and she told me Chara Boxley. Her age is 22 years. She has been making chain for five years and receives from \$1.75 to \$2.16 a week for her work. She makes three-eighths inch chain and is paid \$1.02 for 112 pounds. For breakfast she has bread and butter and tea and sometimes a piece of bacon. She told me she worked from 7 o'clock in the morning until 7 in the evening; that the only rea-son she staid there was because she could pot save enough money to pay her fare away from the town. The buildings look as if they had stood for centuries, and as 1 passed through the little court leading into the house and which is walled on every side by houses I counted fifteen little children from 2 to 6 years of age playing to-gether in all the fifth that could sur-round a blacksmith shop in this district. Across the alley was another shop where another daughter was making chain. She is married, has one child and makes \$2.16 per week.

82.16 per week.
She has been making chain for twenty years, having commenced when she was 12 years old. Her husband, a chain-maker also, earns from \$3 to \$4.50 a weak.

maker also, earns from \$3 to \$4.50 a week. Mrs. Polly Fowkes has four daugh-ters making chain. She is 54 years old and has made chain since she was 7 years of age, but is now too old to work at it any more. Each of the daughters makes from \$1.20 to \$1.50 per week. They live in a little old house, with stone flooring. Here they cook and eat and live in the same room all huddled together. The girls are very smart at the forge. I set five girls to work in



CLARK & FISH ENG. PAIL

nem or our

ing their houses.

Emily Parsons, age 32. Cradley Heath, Eng.. 20 years a chainmaker. Works ten hours per day and earns \$2.16 a week. The building is her blacksmith shop. Taken Aug. 26, 1896, by N. McKay.

Wealth and Poverty Mixed. Manchester, with her 500,000 popula-tion, boasts of her wealth and manufac-turing resources and one would suppose that all of the people alike lived in pal-aces; but to examine into the exact con-dition I find quite the reverse. Thou-sands of these people live on alcohol. When they earn any money, it goes for alcohol chiefly. Coming back to my hotel, the Queen's, facing one of the finest streets in Man-chester, is the Royal infirmary, all along the front of which there are seats which

are running full time our people are idle. Today the goods that are being made in Leeds and in Sheffield would, were it not for the Wilson bill, be made in the United States. I spent a day in Birmingham, which is another thriving and prosperous manu-facturing center. Here also the people are very desirous that no change be made in the present American tariff schedule which would result in depriving them of our market for their goods.

The British Chain Gang.

Shoe Worn by Wigan Women 888 and in 1892. There are women there by the thousands who make chain for a living in old, low buildings adjoin-

After leaving here I went to Cradley Heath-among the women chainmakers and women blacksmiths-to witness the misery there which I had visited in

market for their goods.

ksmith shop. Taken Aug. 25, 1896, by N. McKay. the blacksmith shop. They worked 30 minutes and made me 14 pounds of three-eighths chain. Each piece was over two feet long, and they worked like beavers to see who could make the long-est piece. They work ten hours a day. I gave them a shilling apiece when they all came into the room, and I asked them how long it would take to earn that amount. They replied. "It would take more than a day" (to earn 25 cents). I thought, "Miserable England."

distinct governments.

Life in London

I arrived in London. I arrived in London August 28, and made a visit to Whitechapel. I visited a lodging house on Osborne street. I asked for the proprietor and was intro-duced to him. They call him "the gov-ernor" to distinguish him from other.

There are 519 friendly societies of trades unions in Great Britain with a membership of 1,043,000 (taken from re-port of House of Commons). Several of these societies are located in London and include some of the trades enumer-ated in the Booth table. The societies control the wages of their various trades, and were it not for the stand they take their wages would be reduced by the manufacturer to a lower standard than they are at present, which is less than on-half of what is paid in America.

Higher Wages in America.

Our last census report of 1890 gave us 4,712,622 people employed in manu-facturing, the average yearly carning of each person being \$488. The average is



Daughters of Mrs. Fowkes, chainmakers of Cradley Heath, earn \$1.20-1.50 a week. Work ten hou a day. Taken August 26, 1896, by N. McKay.

<text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text>





CLACK J FISH ING MIL

Mrs. Eliza Head, age 29, a chalumaker of Cradley Heath. The background shows on the left the blacksmith shop and on the right the home. She makes \$2.16 a week. Taken August 26, 1806, by N. McKay.

What does he cars is a week?" At this question the woman smiled. Well it depends sometimes uncre, metimes hese. One day perhaps a shil-"(24 conta), another day 1 and 6 conta) and so on." should say here that the agent finds pets, pans, bed and fire, such as are, for 1 will not attempt to de-the them. This 1 will say is dog mine should ever be allowed to theep what is called a bed is those places. " whole outfit was not worth 10

ave you a back yard ""No. sir." your chaset, then?"

The control of the right the house of the makes 2.16 a week. Taken August 2, its by Y. McKay.
with a table, a chair, a thing called a subject for 18 cents. These comms are and shapes to be possible of the possibl

Trade Paralysis in Bradford.

Trade Paralysis in Headdard. Loaving Manchester, I visited Brad-ford, which is the largest woolen and world. Trade is paralyzed there as far a United States shipments are con-creased at present. The manufacturers are availing the election of the Presi-dent of the United States, to know whether he will be a free trader or a pro-dent of the United States, to know whether he will be a free trader or a pro-dent of the United States, to know whether he will be a free trader or a pro-dent of the United States, to know whether he will be a free trader or a pro-tectionist. The merchants are very much agitated on this account for they can get but few orders from the United states. I said to one of them: "You have now the whole British empire (in-cluding India), with a population of al-most Education controlled by her maked by, to acceptly, why are you not actished

Women Coal Miners. I did not visit Wigan this time (as]

I did not visit Wigan this time (as I have done twice before), but there is no change in labor there; the poorhonses which I described and reproduced in 1892 still stand. It is a pitiful sight to wit-ness the poor women there, half starved and half clad, wheeling coal on the top of the pits for the small pitance of 40 to 50 cents for ten hours' work. I reproduce here a cut of the shoes that are worn by the women in these dis-tricts, heavy clogs with big nails in the bottom. bottom.

The situation has not changed yet. As long as there is coal in the pit there will be women to wheel it. At one time this class lived and had their families in the class lived and had their families in the coal mines, but Parliament prohibited this, and now they do the wheeling on the top of the pits. With this cheap labor no wonder coal is cheap in this country. This coal is used on the very steamers and vessels which carry Eng-land's free trade labor product to Ameri-ca to compate with our labor and mann.

ing their houses. One man, William Boxley, said he was 56 years old and earned 60 cents a day as a laborer, when he could work. He has five daughters and five sons. Three of this daughters are chainmakers and one works in a brickyard, carrying brick. I went into his house. On the lower floor was a room with a stone



A map shot taken in Whitechapel, showing how the poor get their resi. Yaken August 29, 1890, by N. McKay.

floar and an old-fashioned fireplace with owness on each side and a place for coal in the middle. Back of this was a little space for a washroom where there is room all the coshing is done and it is also used for a living room and dinis room. Upstairs is a room Sal2 feet As I entered here I noticed a woman lying on one of the beds (there were

at the expiration of which time they ar

at the expiration of which time they are discharged. Nobody is allowed to come to these places more than once a month, and he can stay no longer than the time pre-scribed. The ward I visited accom-modated fifty-five men and thirty-two women. The beds consist of a narrow strip of canvas stretched like a hammoed between two iron rods about a foot from the floor. The applicants are admitted after 6 p. m. in the summer time. As soon as they are admitted they are given a bath in one of the six baths in the ward and their clothes are fumigates and disinfected. After the bath they have their supper of six onnees of break and a pint of gruel. For their bed they are given three blankets. For breakfas they receive the same food as for sup-per. For dinner, in addition to the break and gruel, they are given 1½ ounces of cheese. The total cost for caring for these people during the period of the continement, including the five meals, in 9 cents each.

9 cents each. Advice to Americans.

Advice to Americans. My advice to every American working man is, as I have said before, to pro-teet his own rights and the rights an-privileges of his family and not to fol-low the whims, cries and falsehoods o the free-trade politician who seeks t have goods imported into the Unite-States which are made by cheap paupe labor because he thinks the goods can b sold cheaper than if they were mad in America.

sold cheaper than if they were made in America. If the wages of the American working men are not reduced to the standard of those in England, and the goods are no made in America, he has no more to purchase these cheap goods with. Be ing deprived of work, where are they t get their money to make, their purchase with? Labor in London.

Labor in London.

The following statistics are taken from Booth's "Life and Labor of the Peopl of London," showing the number of peo-ple employed in the various lines in the city of London: not and shoemakers. Hout and shoemakers. Italiers. Transmakers and milliners. Try

makers. trapers and hosiers. 12

Cherka. Cabinata, conchineta, huamen, etc... Rationay antwice, inbor, etc. mentures. Dock service, inbor, coal heavers, posters, gaaworkers, etc. cioneral inbor, factory labor Engine differen and artisans.

Total. 1,201,241 All other classified labor not in. 711,240 cluded above. 711,240

Mrs. Fowkes' daughters work ten hours per day, earn from \$1.20-1.50 per week. Taken at Cradley Heath, August 26, 1896.

	Per W	Per Week.	
	America	England	America
agie iron smiths. hiermakers. acksniths. icklayers. hiershop helpers. ilkers. irpenters. house. irpenters. ship. mductors. express. ar drivers. Eng. 58.	14.52 16.02 27.00 7.62 19.50	\$8.16 9.84 7.92 12.00 3.60 8.16 7.92 8.40 5.88	* .53 .47 1.02 1.25 .95 1.26 1.650 3.49
12 hrs., Amer. \$2. Engineers, London and Northwestern and N	14.00	10.08	.34
Central. emen, express. learriers. ders on, boller shops ters, house, Liverpool	31.50 17.10 16.50 10.50 10.50	10.80 5.92 4.50 5.04 7.92	1.91 1.88 2.67 1.04 .33
borers in streets, Lon on, ongshoremen, N. Y locks 22 to 40c per hr ondon docks 12c per	10.50	7.20	.44
hr. Machinists, 1st class. Mashinists, 2d class. Mashinists, 2d class. Mashinists, 2d class. Mashres, ron. Planters, ron. Planters, Planters, Platers, Platers, Platers, Policemen. Pavers, Rivectors, Rizgers, Stage drivers iname as norse car drivers. Tylegraph operators.	10.02 12.00 27.00 13.50 24.00 21.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 13.50 12.00 10.000	6.722 6.720 11.462 11.464 8.859 6.007 7.70 10.08	
England- Average first year's serv-	1000	1.85	
tee. bee. Yeah dispatcher. Yeah dispatcher.	21.00 10.50 10.50	1.44	-

London, Sept. 4, 1808.