

And now comes the news of the termination of a great strike in Australia. The strike was of about two months duration. It was not started in the same manner in which strikes are instituted in this country; by workmen banding together and attempting to compel employers to give them higher wages or shorter hours or both, but, in this case, the trades unions demanded that employers of labor should not employ any laborers who were not members of any organization. That such a demand was absurd was shown by the result of the strike. The trades unions did not succeed, although they comprise a very formidable body in Australia, and although the strike spread until it embraced nearly every industry carried on there. Why did the strike not succeed? In the first place the organization of laborers made an unjust demand. Is any one so foolish as to believe that it is not the privilege and right of every employer of labor to hire any one he chooses, or to discharge anyone he wishes to, provided that one does not conduct himself in a proper manner, or does anyone think that a laborer has not the right to work for whoever he pleases. Labor is free to all, and no organization, be it trades union or any other kind of union, has the power to dictate to any one outside of its own individual members.

The employers in Australia recognized this fact and leagued themselves together to thwart the unjust plans of the unions. It was not long before the more moderate unionists declared that this federation had carried the matter too far and after two months struggle they gave the employers the victory, and justly concluded that the non union men had as perfect a right to work and live as they.

There can be no doubt that Stanley by his recent explorations succeeded, beyond the most sanguine hopes, in revealing a great deal of the hidden history of Africa. He braved and overcame hardships that only a man of his courage and firm will would have the determination to meet. The object of the expedition, the relief of Emin Pasha, was attained and Stanley has been applauded. But while his praises have been sung by nearly every one yet there has been quite a controversy over his actions while he was in Africa. It has been alleged that he acted with "relentless and purposeful severity" toward the natives. We are not able to say whether or not this allegation is true, but even if it is not true of Stanley we know that other explorers have acted shamefully towards the Africans. They have been the authors of some of the most atrocious deeds ever heard of. They consider themselves released from all laws as soon as they set foot upon the soil of Africa and, regardless of any obligations they may be under to their own country, these explorers take possession of anything in the way of supplies that they may need. They unhesitatingly put to death Africans that come in their way and in fact they carry on a system of brigandage there.

Will the Africans ever see the light of civilization if such a mode is maintained? Missionaries are being sent into Africa to civilize and Christianize her people, but it will be almost impossible to do this as long as persons, claiming allegiance to a nation that desires to possess and strengthen the African nation, place such obstacles in the way. The Arabs are not the only ones that hinder the contending nations from coming into the possession of Africa. A great deal of the difficulty lies with the men who compose the expeditions that are sent into this foreign country. We are inclined to believe that one of the late papers hit the nail on the head when an editorial contained in it concluded by saying, "The whole business of exploration in Africa calls for thorough over-haul-

ing at the hands of the government, as the spectator suggests. If the deeds which Stanley and his rear-guard have done in Africa are necessary and have any wise purpose in view, then in God's name let them be done under a lawful flag, a public commission, and the articles of war, and make the perpetrators report to the constituted authorities of some civilized tribunal for such of their acts as call for explanation and apology.

ALUMNI AND FORMER STUDENTS.

Professor Bruner has recently received a collection of about 650 beetles.

G. H. Maghee expects to resume his studies at the University next term.

'88.—Roscoe Pound has been admitted to the bar. Success to you, Roscoe.

Miss May Gund, formerly of '93, was greeted by old friends in the halls one day last week.

Harry Eagleson, formerly a member of the class of '90, visited the University week before last.

T. G. Maghee, jr., at one time a member of the class of '91, is at present residing at Rawlins, Wyo.

N. W. Peters, '91, has left school to take the position of United States revenue collector at Nebraska City.

'88.—H. P. Barrett as reporter and H. E. Gria as business manager of the *World Herald* at Council Bluffs are making a grand success.

'84.—G. W. Botsford is studying for the degree of Ph. D. at Cornell. At the same time he holds the position of associate professor of ancient history at that University.

Dr. A. G. Warner was surprised when he learned that his friends in the East had placed him in the field as a candidate for the office of superintendent of charities of the District of Columbia.

'88.—J. S. Smith started for Europe last week. He intends to take a course in the German universities with a view to giving most of his time to his specialty of agriculture. The scientific seminar saw him safely aboard the train.

Will Reed, a member of the class of '90 of Dartmouth College, was among the Y. M. C. A. boys last week. He held several private meetings at different places, and besides he gave a lecture before the joint meeting of Y. W. and Y. M. C. A.'s. His subject was, "The Need of Foreign Missionaries." He finished his work here by an address to the Y. M. C. A., Sunday afternoon, December 14. Mr. Reed is a forcible, earnest pleader for the cause, and his meetings proved to be very beneficial as well as instructive to all who attended.

The following communication, sent by an unknown, has reached us. We presume that it will be interesting to the alumni, but particularly so to the class of '86.

DEAR HESPERIAN: The returns indicate that a convention of the girl babies of the class of '86 would be well attended. Here is the record up to date:

Mrs. Cora Fisher Warner, girl born September, 1889.

Will Owen Jones, girl born June, 1890.

Wilbur C. Knight, girl born September, 1890.

Chas. S. Allen, girl born November, 1890.

For a class of eleven out of college less than five years, this is doing pretty well as everyone will admit. Will other classes care to compare records?