

AMONG MEN OF LETTERS.

The Christmas Season a Fatal One to Famous Poets.

FORMER EDITORS OF THE TIMES.

The Great Power Which John Delane Wielded and the Hard Work He Did—The One Great Mistake of Macdonald.

Christmas Season Fatal to Poets. Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett. London, Dec. 14.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to The Free.]—The Christmas season of 1889 deprived the world of Thackeray, that of 1890 removed George Eliot, and now, as it is returning once more, Robert Browning vanishes from the scene. The greatest poet of our time is providing for the future by being forgotten for the sake of the past, will be eclipsed by the men now playing prominent parts before us. We can scarcely boast that Swinburn surpasses Tennyson, or that Buchanan throws Browning into the shade. Rider Haggard, James Payne and Walter Brant cannot make us forget the day when Dickens and Thackeray vied with each other in providing entertainment for the public, and when the constellation of which they were the center included George Eliot, Charles Lever, Halmer Lytton, Mrs. Gaskell, Wilkie Collins and Captain Marryat. They have no superiors and but few equals. For the time the public seem to have no relish for such work, as they did not art. But the poet's work will be listened to, and therefore two volumes of poems just placed before the world containing Browning's last and Tennyson's latest work will be sold by tens of thousands. The English public never forget their old friends. They will put Browning's volume on their shelves with peculiar veneration, because it came into the world as the poet's first work. He lived just long enough to hear from London by telegraph that the work had been most cordially received. With these last messages to and from his fellow-men he passed into the unknown.

The death has also taken place within the last few days of a man far less familiar to the public than Robert Browning, and yet of some little importance in the world of letters—John Macdonald of the Times. He falls a victim to the Parnell commission. Few of the men who were with the Times in its palmiest days now remain. In the whole history of the paper its power, circulation and influence were never so great as they were from about 1870 to 1875, since the latter date competition has been pressing more and more severely upon it, and its greatest editor, perhaps the greatest editor that ever lived, has been taken away. I have seen some editors in my time, but none of them has been equal to John Delane. During his reign the late Macdonald was in the machine department, and consequently he had nothing whatever to do with the direction of the paper. The place which he recently occupied was previously filled by Mowbray Morris, who looked after the foreign correspondence besides attending to the general business of the property. Two men of the capacity of John Delane and Mowbray Morris have not been brought together in any newspaper. Very few mistakes were made by the Times in those days. Mistakes of policy were of course committed, and at rare intervals the paper might be deceived by one of its servants, but no great blunder was possible like that which led to the publication of the Pignott letters. Delane and Morris were exceedingly acute men, ever on the alert and full of watchfulness in the interests of their paper. I have seen Mr. Delane at work long hours in the morning, and never answering letters or putting things into shape for the next day. He would often keep at his desk till 4 or 5 o'clock in the morning, when the editors were all read and revised. I have seen him go laboring through a proof of news and correcting paragraphs about an old woman slipping upon a piece of orange peel or about some fire in a back street, and in the evening he was revising the English, changing side heads and even improving the punctuation. What editor of a morning paper takes all that trouble? Now Delane wrote but little, and he never made a change in a man's article that was not a change immensely for the better. In the depths of the dullness of a London autumn he always could find plenty of good subjects. The contributor would go into his little room in Sergeant's inn and say: "I cannot see anything to write about today." Delane would look up in astonishment and begin muttering a lot of subjects, one after another, checking them off upon his fingers. "My dear fellow," he would say, "is it possible you did not see any of these?" In spite of his constant night work he had fresh, even rosy complexion, and looked like a farmer. He was a severe disciplinarian and yet very kind-hearted and thoroughly appreciative of good work. He did not praise very often, but when he did one never forgot it. If he ordered one to the very ends of the earth, as he had a trick of doing now and then, one would not be in a hurry to notice, even though it broke up plans for a lifetime. They who did not deal with justly, Macdonald did not have the same position and certainly he never could have exercised the same degree of influence. No doubt, however, he was an efficient man within his limits and unquestionably he possessed the confidence of his chief, John Delane, to a degree which is inclined to think was never bestowed upon either Delane or Morris. Macdonald had no will apart from Walters, or, if he had, he wanted it to become Walters, by adoption. It is a most singular thing that a canny Scott like Macdonald should have been duped so easily by the famous forged letters. There was everything to excite suspicion in the circumstances under which these letters were placed in Macdonald's hands. They were without envelopes. No inquiries were made as to the source from which they were obtained, nor was any information vouchsafed. Their contents were calculated to arouse incredulity, and the writer was a person to be regarded with a great deal of suspicion. Even a raw youth would have hesitated before publishing such letters, considering the terrible libels they contained, supposing they were not genuine. Macdonald, as he admitted in the witness box, never asked whether they were genuine or not. He knew little or nothing of the person who sold them to him, Houston. He never inquired where the letters came from or whether Houston got them from Pignott. "I carefully avoided the subject," he said. "I understood that secrecy was to be maintained." And the great paper risked its fortunes with a little care or forethought as that. Nothing so incredible and unacceptable has ever come to light in the annals

THE EPIDEMIC OF INFLUENZA.

It is Now in Full Swing Among the the Population of Paris.

WHAT ITS SYMPTOMS ARE.

Interviews with Some of the Supposed Learned French Physicians Regarding the Malady—Various Opinions Given.

The Scourge in France. Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett. Paris, Dec. 14.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to The Free.]—The changes in the weather have been simply frightful in twenty-four hours. The thermometer has risen 15 degrees and fallen 10 degrees. This morning was clear, warm and bright. Members of the jury, who arrived early through the Rue de la Scribe in spring overcoats, smoking cigarettes. This afternoon everybody was muffled up in furs and we had a biting snow storm. This evening was cold and clammy, while a fog has settled down upon us and everybody is coughing and sneezing. The influenza epidemic is in full swing. It has captured the military school of St. Cyr. It has attacked the corps de ballet at the opera; it has made a clean sweep through the great shops like the Louvre and the Marche; in fact, nothing like the Eiffel tower has absorbed such public attention as this aggravating and mysterious malady that has swooped down upon us from Russia and holds not only a roadstead thousand Parisians in its anxious but happily harmless clutches. Herald correspondents were sent out in pursuit of information of this curious malady, and three of the best known specialists of France were interviewed. M. Albert Robin of the Academie de Medecine expressed himself as follows: "This disease is known as influenza, or more commonly in France as 'La Grippe.' Five days ago I had my first case, and since then I have treated at least twenty patients. Unquestionably the epidemic will continue to spread. How far it is impossible to say, but the Herald may assure its readers that there is no occasion for serious alarm. An ordinary case of influenza is nothing more to be dreaded than a severe cold of a week's duration. Symptoms of unmistakable headache, pains in the eyes, soreness all over the body, as if one had been beaten, loss of appetite, a feverish condition and a general sense of lassitude and discomfort—these general symptoms are apt to be followed by various local troubles, such as a bronchial attack, cold in the head, sore throat, diarrhoea, and sometimes by pleurisy or pneumonia. The only real danger is presented in the last two cases, which can only be guarded against by proper care. From three to eight days is the average duration of the disease proper, but its effects upon the system are comparatively severe, so that several weeks more are often needed for full convalescence. Grand Duke Alexis, who was ill for only a week, will probably require a month before he feels himself again. As to the cause, medical science is practically at a loss. We can, to be sure, tell the public that it is due to the ravages of an undiscovered microbe, but the public takes only an indifferent interest in that fact. Why the epidemic should sweep across Europe one year and then reappear in another a decade beyond our power to explain. The theory has been advanced that influenza is a forerunner of cholera, but I regard that as pure nonsense. It is true that several times in the present century an influenza epidemic has been closely followed by a visitation of cholera. It is also true that several times in the same century there has been an epidemic of influenza with cholera following, just as there have been epidemics of cholera with influenza preceding. The fact is that the two diseases are so utterly dissimilar as to make any such sequence but impossible, and any occasional instances of their simultaneous appearance must be regarded as mere coincidences, with no deeper significance in the matter of treatment. The classic remedies are sulphate of quinine or bromograte of quinine, but recently physicians of France have strongly urged the use of tannin. Personally I would recommend a prescription containing sulphate of quinine, tannin and opium, the latter being the most valuable in relieving the pains which are felt all over the body."

A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

ENGLISH GOSSIP.

Various Items of Interest From the British Metropolis.

Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett. London, Dec. 14.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to The Free.]—In the great international snoring contest now raging England is seriously handicapped by a slow start, but her partisans hope that their climatic advantages will more than overbalance this. In the last ten days the sun has studiously avoided interfering with the fog and the cold, and there has been more than most enough to draw the English and Londoners do not deny that influenza is rampant in their midst, but are loth to admit that it is communicated by a microbe on the ground that none but the deadliest variety could exist here under the present conditions. Nervous people are beginning to prepare to receive the cholera. Indications grow stronger daily of a corner in handkerchiefs.

The British lion has begun to roar at Portugal because Major Seabra Pinto picked a quarrel with Makoloto, the African potentate, shot several hundred of his followers to pieces with Gatling guns and captured two British flags recently presented to Makoloto by the British consul. Thinking himself deserted by England, Makoloto accepted his hands, Portugal, being understood and consequently, will naturally be consigned to eat crow and pay well for the privilege.

Labor has struck the down grade. The men strikers of Manchester were beaten, and it seems certain that few of the 2,500 striking gas stokers of South London will get any other place, as the company quickly obtained more men than they could employ. The companies' victory will not be cheap, as it boards and lodges the new men on the premises beside paying increased wages. Subscribers to the strikers' fund up to today amounted to an almost incredible amount—3 shillings.

One begins to hear talk of a coming fight between Smith and Javin. The former's prisoners now at the Smiths failed to prepare for the match with Jackson. He this time got, he was certainly beaten in a most disgraceful way by the black. No betting of consequence has been done yet.

English sporting writers loudly lament Searle's death, whom most of them describe as the best man that ever sat in a boat. They said the name of Hamilton and speak of him now as "that wonder." They describe Hamilton's downfall as an oarman in typhoid fever; the disease which took Searle for a victim. Kemp's claim to the championship would not be recognized on the ground that Hoach had no right to give it to him, and that Kemp has done nothing to uphold it. O'Conner has more backing for it in England than any other oarman, and after him comes Slansbury.

There are indications of another dock strike. The dock laborers refuse to load for any carrier who is unfurnished with a union ticket. Up to this time two hundred dock laborers have struck rather than break this determination. In the last strike the public was with them. Another strike and on such a great scale may not meet with such treatment. The dock and Westminister proposals to visit the friends and admirers of Robert Browning to participate in memorial funeral services at the abbey on the day of the poet's funeral.

Fluence St. John sailed on the Servia from Liverpool today for New York. Ten days ago Liverpool was reported dry.

Bernard Quaver will sail for New York on the coming week. Among his luggage will be trunks of rare additions estimated to be worth \$40,000. Among them is the Marzine bible, valued at \$5,000, a copy of the first book issued from the Caxton press.

Carlo Menotti of the city council of Rome says he favored the establishment of an American bank with a branch at Rome, but has an idea the organization was to be on religious lines.

Death of the Marquis De Caux. Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett. Paris, Dec. 14.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to The Free.]—The death is announced of the Marquis de Caux, who was married in 1828 at Capharnaim, England, to Adolena Patti and was legally separated from her in 1877.

The Weather Forecast. For Omaha and Vicinity—On December 15, fair weather. Nebraska—Fair, warmer in Iowa; stationary temperature in Nebraska; Southern winds. South Dakota—Fair, lower temperature by Monday morning; south winds.

Steamship Arrivals. At Queenstown—The Lord Clive, from Philadelphia. At New York—The City of Berlin, from Liverpool. At Philadelphia—The Pransian, from Glasgow.

Murderer Hanged. Empire City, Dec. 14.—John Gilman, who murdered Mrs. Ethelvenow and child, was hanged here yesterday in the jail yard.

STOLE A MARCH ON BISMARCK

Theological Students Relieved From Military Service.

DONE BY THE CENTRIST PARTY.

Elections at Hand—Attempts to Conciliate the Striking Miners—German Bankers Afraid of Portugal—Dom Pedro's Manifesto.

A Centrist Street.

Copyright 1889 by New York Associated Press. The success of the centrist party in the vote on the reichstag relieving all theological students from military service has stirred up a good deal of a breeze in the upper world of politics, and Bismarck complains in regard to it that the highest interests of the government service is neglected for the interests of individual deputies. The centrist secured the victory by rushing through a vote in the absence of many members of the Cartel party, who were home doing what American politicians call "taking care of their fences." The National Zeitung announces that the government will not accept this decision on this very important subject. Bismarck has halted Herr Boettcher over the scale for not preventing the vote and Boettcher has promptly responded throwing the blame on the Cartel combination. Bismarck's answer to the effect that all important government measures must be settled in reichstag before the middle of February, when he desires to dissolve that body. Herr Boettcher's task will not be an easy one.

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Antionishing Story of a Utah Grand Jury.

SALT LAKE, Dec. 14.—The grand jury of the Third district met this afternoon made its report. The report shows that it has been the custom of the United States marshal to charge the penitentiary 35 to 40 cents per gallon for milk from cows kept there and cared for by prison labor and fed principally from food raised upon the reservation or paid for by the government. These milk vouchers since 1882 have amounted to about \$8,000. The marshal also has been selling to the penitentiary potatoes raised on the reservation by convict labor. Other fruitful sources of revenue for him were team hire for deputies, hauling prisoners to and from the penitentiary, etc. The marshal supports also, partly from the public supplies and table linens, twelve cattle and one hundred hogs and two extra horses. In one year one team, for which the government provided a driver earned the marshal in hauling the sum of \$1,300.

The jury says for \$500 the government could provide itself with horses, wagon and harness to perform all this service and for 500 additional two good cows sufficient to furnish all the milk needed for the penitentiary, and it would seem as though it were economy to do this. The jury also complains that the marshal has shown unusual favors to prisoners convicted of unlawful cohabitation. The supplies now furnished to the penitentiary are 25 per cent in excess of its needs and at the price 25 per cent in excess of the actual value.

The jury also investigated the administration of county affairs and makes a sensational report thereon. Road work has received in five years \$114,000 and there are no bids on the work and no proper vouchers. The county has sunk in canals \$122,000 and has no canals save a waste ditch and nothing to show for the money. The county clerk and one hundred other persons commented upon. The county has lost \$30,000 by two collectors and \$11,000 through a clerk. The report says the county officials deal with themselves as a business firm for supplies and show favoritism to Mormon prisoners. The county court has also voted away valuable franchises for no public consideration. The officers have been trading with each other and supplying and entering into partnership with spotted dairymen, which them the fines imposed. The city also paid to a bogus hydraulic canal company \$6,697 for its interest in the Jordan river dam which the company never owned, out which the county obligingly bonded over to the city, the county receiving not a cent of the money. The report in closing charges that the wages earned by the men went into the pockets of city and council officers.

FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Typographical Delegates Oppose Assentment for the Expatriated Strike.

BOSTON, Dec. 14.—At a meeting of the American Federation of Labor the discussion on the report of the committee on constitution was resumed. The debate was animated, and great interest was manifested in the arguments of the speakers. The representatives of the International Typographical union and a number of printers from the central office, who were previously opposed to the question of assentment, to meet the expenses of the expected strike May 1. The following session was adjourned: "The executive council shall have power to levy a strike assessment of 5 cents per member on June 1, 1890, on all national and international bodies under the jurisdiction of the federation."

Another amendment was adopted giving to the executive committee power over affiliated bodies to levy an assessment not to exceed 3 cents per week to continue at the discretion of the executive council, unless otherwise ordered by a vote of all national and international unions. Towards the Knights of Labor the federation states its position as follows: 1. That the Knights of Labor shall discontinue and revoke the charters of all trades assemblies in the order. 2. The American labor and trade unions will urge their members and encourage working people to become members of mixed assemblies of Knights of Labor. The time has arrived when trade unions should claim their own, the trend of organization shows the wage earners of America weary of having their interests subverted by the misdeeds of the holder or yardstick of the merchant. We assert the natural right of trade unions to occupy trade unions territory. When this right is conceded discord will end and organized labor be more closely united."

The election of officers resulted in the reelection of President Samuel Gompers of New York and Secretary P. Maguire of New York. Final adjournment was then taken. Detroit will be the place of the next meeting.

Farmers Robbed.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 14.—A half dozen farmers who were returning to their homes from Dallas, Tex. yesterday, after selling their cotton were robbed by highwaymen on the road near Waterloo. Hoodlums were out on the robbery tracks and a report has reached Dallas that two of the robbers have been captured and hanged by the enraged farmers.

THE LINCOLN POSTOFFICE.

Final Action Suspended Till After the Holidays.

NOT HOSTILE TO CATHOLICS.

Indian Commissioner Morgan's Letter to Archbishop Ireland—The Silent Controversy—Anti-Trust Legislation.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA HERALD.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 14.—There will not be final action taken on the Lincoln postmaster's petition until after the holidays. The naming of a postmaster at Lincoln was conceded originally to Congressman McCord, but Senators Manderson and Padonock have since taken a change, and their request has been granted. The senators want to present the claims of various aspirants. The appointment will likely be made soon after the holiday recess.

MORGAN'S DEFENSE.

The fight against the confirmation of Thomas J. Morgan as Indian commissioner is led by Senators Ingalls and Plum of Kansas. There are several senators who will join them. The greatest interest was manifested today in Morgan's treatment of Archbishop Ireland, which was generally published in the leading eastern papers this morning. In replying to the Minnesota prelate the commissioner said: "The Catholic hierarchy is a mistake. The matter of complaint in this connection started from the educational division in the Indian bureau. It was dismissed for inaudition, incompetency and drunkenness. He was a Catholic and I gain sympathy has misled the leading Catholics of the country who have made their attacks on me through misinformation. I have explained my position on contract denominational schools before, and people interested in the education of the Indians are well acquainted with it. As to the Indian school at Devil's Lake the archbishop is correct only so far as the sisters have been notified that as government property the bureau would take charge of the building at any time for the purpose of establishing an Indian school. It was a notification to the sisters to be frank to move. I deny that all the Indians at this agency are Catholics. I never told Mr. Lusk that I had decided not to appoint sisters at this school. As to the president's policy, I am going farther than he suggested in my message. He says the funds should be distributed equitably. At present the Catholic church is getting seven-tenths of the lands for school purposes."

As to my record the statement that I am opposed by old soldiers is false. All that matter has been explained and after the court-martial proceedings I was recommended for promotion. The man heading the list of officers signing this request was Benjamin Harrison. There is not one nor has there ever been hostility to the Catholic church in this bureau. I have stated that I believe in government schools in preference to contract schools. That is the chief reason for complaint."

HOSE COMMITTEES.

"Do you think Speaker Reed will announce the house committees before congress takes its holiday recess?" I asked Chairman McKinley tonight. "Yes," was the reply. "I believe that is the understanding." "What day do you expect the recess to be taken?" "That depends upon the day on which the speaker is ready to announce the committees." "By Thursday?" "Probably." "By Friday, sure?" "By Saturday at the farthest, and probably a day earlier."

The senate will have to wait until the house is ready for the holiday recess. A general impression prevails that the recess will be taken on Thursday, immediately after the speaker announces his committees. Most men on both branches expect the committees to be ready by that day. The committee on elections has already begun work. It has taken up the contest of Posey vs Parrett from the first district of Indiana, and it would have been ready to report to the house before the holiday recess had it not been for the absence of one or two members of the committee. It is understood the case will be disposed of the first thing after the house convenes in January. Parrett, the sitting member, it is believed, will be unseated and Mr. Posey, the republican contestant, will be seated.

THE STRIKE MATTER.

There continues to be a good deal of nervousness on the part of the members of the house as to the outcome of their financial accounts with Sergeant-at-Arms Leodom. While very many are willing to vote openly for a bill to reimburse themselves there are those who contend that they should bear the loss instead of the government and vote against the measure to reimburse them. The question of the responsibility continues to be debatable. It is held by some of the shrewdest lawyers that Sillcott was the agent of the government because he was paid by the government; that the government cannot hire one to be an individual agent and all who receive salaries out of the federal government are agents of the government; that, therefore, Sillcott was the agent of the government, and a general bill to reimburse those who had money with him is not only lawful but just.

It is safe to say that finally the members of the money they deposited with the sergeant-at-arms. The statement of the committee appointed to investigate the shortage in the sergeant-at-arms' office reports quite a number of members as having overdrawn their accounts. Among them is Speaker Carlisle who received \$115 more than was due him. The \$103 reported by the committee as the item overdrawn by Speaker Reed is incorrectly reported. Mr. Reed says that and that amount was due him when he drew it and that although it may stand as an overdraft on the books it was for the salary of past months.

There seems to be no effort made by the treasury, or by officials of the house to bring about the apprehension of Sillcott. So far as can be ascertained no detectives have been put upon Sillcott's track and no reward has been offered by anyone. Usually a reward of \$5,000 or \$10,000 would be offered for the apprehension of the defaulter. It is understood that twelve or fifteen indictments have been returned by the grand jury against Sillcott for forgery. Forgery is an extraditable crime and if the defaulter either is in Canada he can be brought to trial for the crime if he can be found. Sergeant-at-Arms Leodom is doing himself an injustice in not

Key West's Strike.

KEY WEST, Dec. 14.—The cigarmakers' strike is further from settlement than ever. Only fifty cases of cigars were shipped last month. The output is generally 1,800 cases monthly.

Fatal Boiler Explosion.

COVINGTON, Tenn., Dec. 14.—The boiler in Randall Brothers' sawmill exploded this morning, demolishing the building and killing two men and fatally injuring two others.

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SALT LAKE, Dec. 14.—The grand jury of the Third district met this afternoon made its report. The report shows that it has been the custom of the United States marshal to charge the penitentiary 35 to 40 cents per gallon for milk from cows kept there and cared for by prison labor and fed principally from food raised upon the reservation or paid for by the government. These milk vouchers since 1882 have amounted to about \$8,000. The marshal also has been selling to the penitentiary potatoes raised on the reservation by convict labor. Other fruitful sources of revenue for him were team hire for deputies, hauling prisoners to and from the penitentiary, etc. The marshal supports also, partly from the public supplies and table linens, twelve cattle and one hundred hogs and two extra horses. In one year one team, for which the government provided a driver earned the marshal in hauling the sum of \$1,300.

The jury says for \$500 the government could provide itself with horses, wagon and harness to perform all this service and for 500 additional two good cows sufficient to furnish all the milk needed for the penitentiary, and it would seem as though it were economy to do this. The jury also complains that the marshal has shown unusual favors to prisoners convicted of unlawful cohabitation. The supplies now furnished to the penitentiary are 25 per cent in excess of its needs and at the price 25 per cent in excess of the actual value.

The jury also investigated the administration of county affairs and makes a sensational report thereon. Road work has received in five years \$114,000 and there are no bids on the work and no proper vouchers. The county has sunk in canals \$122,000 and has no canals save a waste ditch and nothing to show for the money. The county clerk and one hundred other persons commented upon. The county has lost \$30,000 by two collectors and \$11,000 through a clerk. The report says the county officials deal with themselves as a business firm for supplies and show favoritism to Mormon prisoners. The county court has also voted away valuable franchises for no public consideration. The officers have been trading with each other and supplying and entering into partnership with spotted dairymen, which them the fines imposed. The city also paid to a bogus hydraulic canal company \$6,697 for its interest in the Jordan river dam which the company never owned, out which the county obligingly bonded over to the city, the county receiving not a cent of the money. The report in closing charges that the wages earned by the men went into the pockets of city and council officers.

FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Typographical Delegates Oppose Assentment for the Expatriated Strike.

BOSTON, Dec. 14.—At a meeting of the American Federation of Labor the discussion on the report of the committee on constitution was resumed. The debate was animated, and great interest was manifested in the arguments of the speakers. The representatives of the International Typographical union and a number of printers from the central office, who were previously opposed to the question of assentment, to meet the expenses of the expected strike May 1. The following session was adjourned: "The executive council shall have power to levy a strike assessment of 5 cents per member on June 1, 1890, on all national and international bodies under the jurisdiction of the federation."

Another amendment was adopted giving to the executive committee power over affiliated bodies to levy an assessment not to exceed 3 cents per week to continue at the discretion of the executive council, unless otherwise ordered by a vote of all national and international unions. Towards the Knights of Labor the federation states its position as follows: 1. That the Knights of Labor shall discontinue and revoke the charters of all trades assemblies in the order. 2. The American labor and trade unions will urge their members and encourage working people to become members of mixed assemblies of Knights of Labor. The time has arrived when trade unions should claim their own, the trend of organization shows the wage earners of America weary of having their interests subverted by the misdeeds of the holder or yardstick of the merchant. We assert the natural right of trade unions to occupy trade unions territory. When this right is conceded discord will end and organized labor be more closely united."

Farmers Robbed.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 14.—A half dozen farmers who were returning to their homes from Dallas, Tex. yesterday, after selling their cotton were robbed by highwaymen on the road near Waterloo. Hoodlums were out on the robbery tracks and a report has reached Dallas that two of the robbers have been captured and hanged by the enraged farmers.

Key West's Strike.

KEY WEST, Dec. 14.—The cigarmakers' strike is further from settlement than ever. Only fifty cases of cigars were shipped last month. The output is generally 1,800 cases monthly.

Fatal Boiler Explosion.

COVINGTON, Tenn., Dec. 14.—The boiler in Randall Brothers' sawmill exploded this morning, demolishing the building and killing two men and fatally injuring two others.