

THE WIVES AND CHILDREN

Of the Striking Miners in a Sorry Plight.

An article in the New York Outlook on "The Families of the Miners," written by Mrs. Lillian W. Betts who visited the scene of the strike in Pennsylvania for the purpose of enquiring into conditions there, gives a sorry picture of affairs. Prices at the company stores as well as at the cash stores are so high that with an income of \$55. per month a miner could not support a wife, a mother and five children decently. All the children of the miner whose case was here specially mentioned "were barefooted, and wore but one garment—a dress clean and whole."

"Each miner's wife, no matter what her feeling may be on other points relating to the strike, believes that the bi-monthly payments should be insisted upon. The women declare that the men's wages could be used to better advantage if paid twice a month. They believe that this would enable them to have a cash balance, and that they would buy more economically; or, as one woman expressed it, "Money in the pocketbook makes us more stingy."

"The employment of little boys in the mines is deplorable. Boys still young enough and small enough to coddle in one's lap, but with faces from which every trace of childhood is gone, were met everywhere, bearing the marks of their daily toil. They smoke and swear. Toddlers use language that makes one stand still, it seems so unnatural. The mothers in answer to the question whether the boys were put to work in the mines because their wages are needed, reply almost invariably, "Yes; the wages of my husband, after expenses for tools, oil, powder and labour are paid, will not provide for the family."

It would not be fair to close this glancing description of life in the communities now affected by the strike without reference to the mortality among young children. It took but a short time to accustom one to expect, in answer to the question, "How many children have you?" to hear, "I have had nine and lost five;" "I have had seven and lost four;" "I have had ten and lost six;" or, "Three and lost one." The second awful fact is the apathy with which this mortality is stated. At the present it is pathetic to hear these mothers say, "Well, they won't be hungry and cold this winter, thank God!" The life here is made bearable because the people know no other. In response to a comment on the condition of one small community, a disgrace to civilization, under the control of one corporation, a sweet, blue-eyed woman who had scarcely spoken said: "To people brought up fine it must seem bad, but it's all we know. You see I was born in this house; my father, mother, and two brothers died here. I was married here, and buried my five children from this house. I know no other life. I am used to it. If the men win, and don't have to pay so much for powder, and get treated fair at the breakers, and we are paid every two weeks, we'll do well; but they ought to have struck last spring." The other women nod their heads. This woman's sentiments fairly represent the social and economic attitude of miners' wives who speak English. Others workingmen's wives in the region are roused. Many workingmen who are not miners have been thrown out of employment. Clerks are being discharged from the stores, and a general paralysis for the time has settled down upon the community. Among the wives of workingmen other than miners, the sentiment is one of sympathy; yet the miners and their wives are always referred to as being of a lower social grade. In intelligence and housewifely arts no perceptible difference was discovered.

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BERESFORD A WONDER.

Won a Sham Battle in the Mediterranean Sea by Daring Tactics.

LONDON, Oct. 12.—Lord Charles Beresford has amazed the naval world by the brilliant strategy with which he won the sham battle in the recent manoeuvres of the British fleet in the Mediterranean. His tactics have been pronounced the cleverest in the naval annals. The fleet was divided into two parts, Beresford in command of one, and Admiral Fisher of the other. Beresford was blockaded in the port of Mitylene by Fisher's torpedo boats and Fisher's fleet was hovering about and lying in wait outside. Beresford's task was to coal his fleet, get out of the harbor, and attack Fisher. By putting lights on the launches so as to make them resemble ships in the darkness he deceived the torpedo boats away on false trail and with every light out on his own warships, slipped away to sea, with not a vessel touched. Having done this he misled Fisher's scouts by false signals, and caught the hostile fleet entirely unprepared off the Island of Lemnos. Fisher's squadron was steaming in parallel columns, and Beresford manoeuvred his ships so skilfully that the Admiral had no opportunity to change this formation or do anything but clear the decks for action. Beresford ran his ships in single file right in be-

tween the lines, enabling him to fight both broadsides, while each of Fisher's vessels could use but one. The victory was so complete that the umpires awarded it on the spot to the hero of the Alexandria bombardment.

Culhane, Chace & Weston's Minstrels.

Bigger Brighter and Better than ever, Culhane, Chace & Weston's big Minstrels, will make their second annual appearance at Grahams Opera House Friday Oct 19th. This season the company numbers thirty performers, all selected artists and each one noted in the especial line of specialties they present. Among the most pleasing features of the first part is the singing by the Imperial Four, the Superb Orchestra rendering the accompaniments under the direction of Wm. R. Weston, in an unusually fine manner. Wm. H. Chace, the comedian, has a new budget of funny songs and saying, while the old favorite, Warren Stetson, is again seen in the interlocutor's chair. Among the old favorites seen with the company are the Three Famous St. Felix Sisters who present an entirely new black face art. These famous artists have been meeting with great approval in New York, where they have been recently appearing. The ever popular and genial funny fellow, Bobby DeRue, rattles the bones again this season, and will present some new "comicalities." Osborne & Daley, The Tossing Austins, LaVardo, Daley & Monroe, The Imperial four, Big military Band and a Superb Grand Orchestra, make up an entertainment that no one who sees the show can be otherwise but pleased with. One of the finest street parades ever given in this city, it will pay all to wait for the biggest and best.

Low rate excursions from Northern New Brunswick and Aroostook County Points to Boston.

The Canadian Pacific will issue excursion tickets to Boston by the all rail line good going October 19th, 20th and 22nd good to return November 8th, continuous passage in each direction at the following very low rates: Canterbury, \$10.50; Benton, \$10.75; Debec Junction, \$10.75; Houlton, \$11.00; Woodstock, \$11.00; Newburg Junction, \$11.20; Hartland, \$11.45; Florenceville, \$11.80; Bristol, \$11.90; Bath, \$12.00; Kilburn, \$12.40; Perth, \$12.65; Aroostook Junction, \$12.80; Fort Fairfield, \$13.00; Caribou, \$13.00; Presque Isle, \$13.00; Grand Falls, \$13.40; St. Leonards, \$13.85; Green River, \$14.20; Edmundston, \$14.30.

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JEWETT'S CORNER, WOODSTOCK.

MARRIED.

INMAN-PRITCHARD.—At the residence of the bride's mother Somersfield, N. B., Oct. 10th by Rev. A. H. Hayward, David M. Inman, of Lower Perth, Victoria Co., N. B., to Janie Pritchard, of Somersfield, N. B.

UPTON-PALMER.—At the Baptist parsonage Florenceville, N. B., Oct. 10th, by Rev. A. H. Hayward, Frank A. Upton, of Centreville, N. B., to Sandra M. Palmer, of Charleston N. B.

LAWRIE-MAGUIRE.—At the residence of the bride's father, Kirkland, Carleton Co., on the 10th inst., by Rev. Thos. Stebbings, Lottie, second daughter of Mr. James Maguire to Mr. James Lawrie of Marysville.

DIED.

GRANT.—At Fort Fairfield on the 5th, Agnes, daughter of John Grant of Aroostook Junction in the 21st year of her age. Interment took place at Kilburn.

GOUCHER.—At Rowena on the 9th, Harold, the only child of Thomas and Birdie Goucher, aged 11 months and 3 weeks.

FULTON.—At his home Greenfield Oct. 5th of cholera, Joseph Fulton aged 67 years, leaving a wife and family with a large circle of friends to mourn their loss.

DARKIS.—At Florenceville, N. B., Oct. 4th of Stomach trouble after an illness of three months borne with christian resignation, Lydia, wife of John Darkis, leaving a husband and one son, an adopted daughter an aged mother, four brothers and a large circle of friends to mourn their loss. On her death the Baptist church of Florenceville loses one of their most faithful and devoted members and the community a good citizen.

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Oct. 10th 1900.

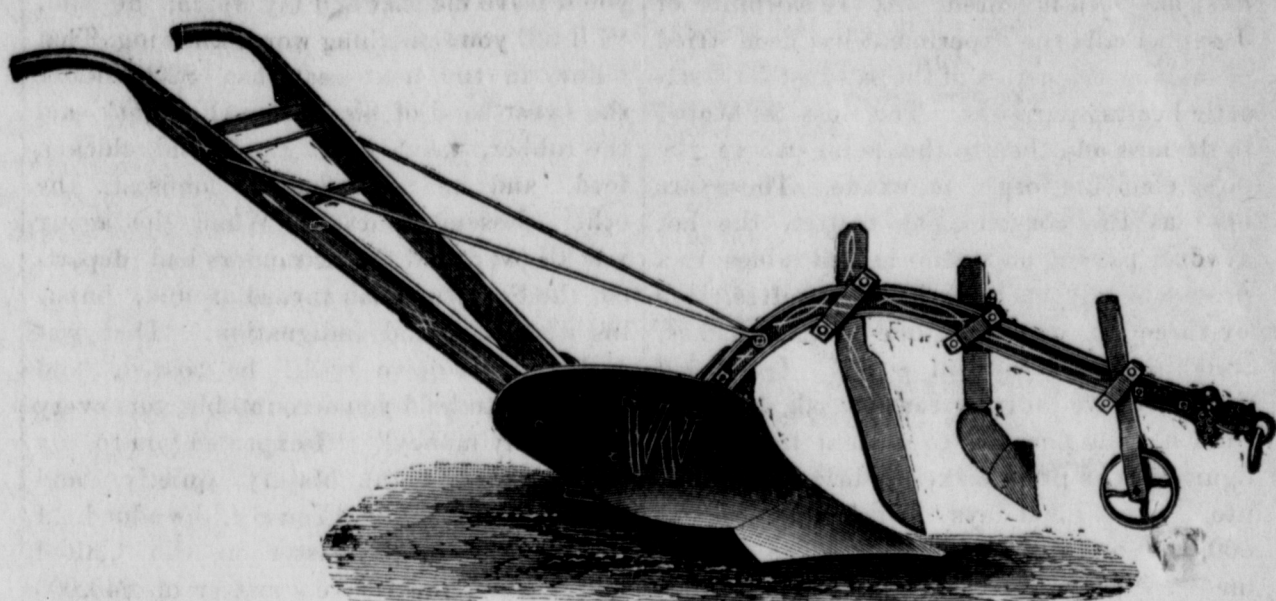
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For further particulars apply to the undersigned. LOUIS E. YOUNG, Barrister, Woodstock, N. B. Sept. 12, 1900.

NOTICE.

My wife, Ida, has left my bed and board. I will not pay any bills contracted by her. LEVI CAMPBELL, Arthurette. Sept. 20th 1900.