

POWDERLY TALKS.

Wise Words From the Grand Master Workman.

Meeting of the Executive Board Knights of Labor.

[New York Times, March 27th.]

Grand Master Workman Powderly came to New York and dined at the House last night. With him came the members of the Knights of Labor Executive Board, and on the top floor of the Astor House, in a room secluded from all intrusion, these powers in the labor world sat in secret session till after midnight.

Before he went to bed, however, Mr. Powderly made public an official statement concerning the Southwestern railway strike. He repudiated certain statements attributed to influential Knights of Labor interested in that strike, declared that the strike on the Missouri Pacific lines was not to extend over the country, and announced that overtures would be made to-day to Jay Gould looking to arbitration.

"If Mr. Irons, who has been in authority over this Missouri Pacific strike," said this official statement given out by Grand Master Workman Powderly, "has used statements which this evening's dispatches attribute to him to the effect that the strike in his district is forthwith to extend over the whole United States, and that not only railroad employees will be called out, but the order to go out will be given to all Knights of Labor in the country, regardless of occupation—if Mr. Irons has issued these statements he certainly has exceeded his authority. He has no power to call out any more men than are now out. And not another move must be made without the consent of the General Executive Board of our order, now in session here in New York. The power of Mr. Irons does not extend beyond the limits of District No. 101. This strike originated in that district. The General Executive Board was never notified of any grievance in that district until the strike had been in progress for several days, and then no official notice was received till we called for it. We were asked to interfere nor have we been asked for assistance. Districts Nos. 17 and 93 are co-operating with District No. 101. They acted on their own responsibility, and not at the command or order of Mr. Irons, who has no jurisdiction beyond his own district.

"This strike has extended far enough, and it must be settled where it is. The statement that the strike is for the recognition of the Knights of Labor as an organization is erroneous. It is against our advice and counsel. That the men out there have grievances and causes for complaint we believe to be true; but, whether true or not, no harm can come of investigation. The men are anxious for it. We see no reason why Vice President Hoxie, of the Missouri Pacific Company, should fear it.

"We are in favor of ending this matter now, and to-morrow we will submit this proposition to Jay Gould. "Let Gould appoint on his part a committee of three men; we will appoint a similar committee; let these gentlemen choose a seventh to be associated with them. Let this committee of seven investigate the whole affair and make recommendations, and we will agree to abide by their decision."

"We will not ask," continues the Executive Board's man who has been recognized of any act of violence of either individuals or property—for we are not organized to promote or shield wrong-doing."

Mr. Powderly said that the proposition to appoint the investigating committee of seven would be made to Jay Gould early to-day. He hoped Gould would recognize the need for such action. These are dangerous times, said Mr. Powderly, adding that he recognized with much anxiety the "secondary talk" which Gould has lately been guilty of in parading an opinion from one of his lawyers about law suits and the grabbing of the homes of workmen who have opposed him. The temper of the country just now demands careful statements from everybody, said Mr. Powderly, and Gould as well as every other man, he averred, owed it to the country to stand for conciliatory measures instead of recklessly trying to array one body of men against another in bitterness. Mr. Powderly declared that he could not believe that Chief Engineer Arthur, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, had used any such language as was attributed to him in yesterday's dispatches from the West. Chief Arthur being represented as severely criticizing Grand Master Workman Powderly's line of action, and openly declaring against an eight-hour law.

"I shall write at once to Chief Arthur," said Mr. Powderly, "and ask him if he is responsible for these published statements. If I find that he is correctly reported he will find very quickly that I have the right in the name of two-thirds of the members of his own organization to contradict him flatly and emphatically. I have never met Mr. Arthur, but so far I have had no reason to believe him anything else than a rational man. But if he has talked as he is reported to-day, he surely is not rational. But of this later."

St. Louis, Mo., March 27.—Chairman Irons, of Executive Committee of District Assembly No. 101, when shown the statement of Powderly and Turner, telegraphed from New York and Philadelphia last night, said: "It is not necessary for me to give any authority for anything I have said. We don't have to be guided by what Powderly says. The General Committee has no power here, and it cannot come in here and settle this trouble unless we request it."

When Mr. Turner's statement, in which he declares that Mr. Irons is one of the men who are doing the order great injustice, was shown him, he said: "I have nothing to say about that, and I will not be drawn into newspaper controversy with Mr. Powderly or Mr. Turner, and they have no right to denounce me in this manner."

"But you made the statement complained of?" was asked.

"What I said," replied Mr. Irons, "was that if the strike is not settled it might extend over all the railroads in the country, and I will tell you more than I said, and that it may extend to all Knights all over the country."

New York, March 27.—The General Executive Board of the Knights of Labor is now in session at the Astor House. The Board consists of Grand Master Workman Powderly, of Saratoga; Frederic Turner, of Philadelphia; John W. Hayes, of New Brunswick, N. J.; Wm. H. Bailey, of Shaw-

nee, Ohio, and T. B. Barry, of East Saginaw, Mich. The object of the present convening of the board is to settle the existing troubles on the southwestern railroad amicably by arbitration. The principal purpose which has actuated this body is, if possible, to meet Jay Gould in friendly conference and thus smooth over many difficulties which could not be effected by correspondence. Although the board remained in session until almost daybreak, it convened at 10 o'clock, and after drawing up a letter, dispatched it to Jay Gould. In this letter Mr. Gould is asked to name a committee of three men to meet a similar committee appointed by the board who will jointly name a seventh. These seven men, it is expected will agree upon a method which shall successfully find an issue out of the present troubles. Mr. Gould was not in his office when the letter was sent here, but he reached the Western Union building afterwards, and he, with his son, George, and an official of the Missouri Pacific railroad, locked themselves into a private office to consider its contents. Mr. Powderly, in an interview, said: "We hope to settle the Gould strike. If we do not we have other matters of importance to attend to, which will keep us busy for three or four days at least. I cannot tell what we may do if Mr. Gould declines to treat with us."

In regard to his circular, published this morning, Mr. Powderly said: "When I issued this circular yesterday I intended it as a secret communication to the Knights of Labor in their various assemblies. I was surprised to see it in print; but, as it has appeared, I do not deny its authorship, since it was issued on March 13th. Although it has not yet reached all remote assemblies, I have received no less than 900 letters from 900 district assemblies endorsing and approving its every sentiment, each under the seal of the order. Most of the letters have come from assemblies which are the oldest in the order, but many came from new branches of the organization. I consider this circular an absolute necessity, for some ill advised, enthusiastic knights have been bringing the knight-hood into a false position before the public. One of our chief purposes in coming to New York just at this time is to undo, if possible, a grievous wrong which was done to me by Gould last fall upon the settlement of similar troubles on the Wabash road. Then the attacks upon him by the press and many so-called or would-be mouth pieces of the knights were simply outrageous. No man could stand such libels without being justly indignant and indisposed to treat peacefully with the men who are supposed to have attacked him. I hope to find Mr. Gould a fair man, and I expect that he will adopt our suggestions and be willing to treat with us as with fair men, which we claim to be."

Not long ago Mr. Arthur, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, is said to have made harsh statements concerning Mr. Powderly. These allegations accused him of working for his own interests and not for that of the knights at large. The attack upon the executive has caused considerable comment, and Mr. Powderly said that he did not believe that Mr. Arthur is capable of having made the statements imputed to him. "I am not acquainted with Mr. Arthur," said he, "but if he were acquainted with me better he could never have uttered such falsehoods." Mr. William H. Bailey, the member of the board from Ohio, was indignant at the attack upon his chief, who, he said, has devoted twelve years to the knights, working solely and alone in their interest night and day. "Mr. Powderly knows me, and he continues to be constantly in the called hither and thither in the interests of his men."

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

How One Man Can Now Do the Work of Ten a Century Ago.

Agriculture, like all other of the arts and science, has seen wonderful advancement within the last century in the line of tools. Improved machinery and mechanical devices of many kinds have greatly reduced the farmer's manual labor, and made an immense increase in the power of producing with a given amount of labor. The mowing machine has almost supplanted scythe, and the flail is fast becoming an interesting relic. Yet, as late as 1830, in some parishes of England, the laborers went about destroying every horse-power threshing machine they could find. Little prejudice now remains against labor-saving farm machinery, and the farmer is thought behind if he mows with a scythe or threshes with a flail. The model farmer now mows, spreads and rakes his hay with the mower, tedder and horse rake, and then lifts it from hay-rack to barn lot with a horse-fork. He ploughs in the West at least, with a sulky-plough; then uses a harrow, cultivator and pulverizer, all in one; and sows his seed with a mechanical seed-sower. When manuring time comes in fall or spring, he can use a manure spreader if he wishes. Wheel-hoes save the farmer's back lots of stiches, or a horse shoe can be used.

One of the devices that is now no longer thought a luxury is the windmill. Any one who rides through New England with his eyes open knows how many of these are in use. Some are utilized for cutting wood, hay and roots, and for other mechanical purposes, but they are as one in a hundred used for pumping water. There is almost no limit to the height to which water can be raised by the windmill, and it need not be directly over the well; in fact, it may be many feet away, provided the vertical distance be not great. Old Probs says, and experience proves that hereabouts the wind blows about one-third the time, so the tank used for storage must hold at least three times as much as the amount required one day. Thus water can be stored to supply the house, barn or fields, and the farmer can be almost independent of rain. The smallest mill put up, with fair winds, will store from 250 to 400 gallons of water an hour. Such mills as farmers ordinarily use cost from \$125 to \$400, and the purchaser can if he wishes easily erect them himself.

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THE CALERA EXPLOSION.

A Heartrending Scene Among the Dead and the Dying.

CALERA, Ala., March 26.—The scene yesterday, following the fatal explosion of the Calera company's saw mill boiler, was one of the sadder spectacles. The explosion brought the inhabitants of the town hurrying to the spot, where they found the surrounding buildings in flames, the roof of the mill scattered in all directions, and clouds of white steam, followed by black smoke in the air. The fireman, Joe Robertson, was found lying crushed and dead, nearly all his clothes being torn from his body, and his flesh scalded with the muddy sediment from the boiler. Mr. Jesse Pilgreen, superintendent of the mill, was not found. He was covered in the ruins and the flames spread so rapidly that his dead body could not be recovered, and was, consequently, consumed. William Fletcher, another employe, was taken out and carried to an adjacent sawdust pile. He was badly scalded over the body and had several wounds about the head. His sufferings were awful, the indications being that he had swallowed some of the superheated steam. He died later. His mother was by his side and her lamentations were heartrending. She knelt and in a fervent voice prayed God to spare her boy. Barry Robertson was taken out in a terrible broken condition. He was scalded and cut about the face and head and his eyes were both closed by the heat and his recovery is doubtful. Relatives and friends gathered around and the cries of grief were loud. Joe Robertson had but recently married a lovely young girl and the shock of his sudden and awful death seemed to deprive her of reason. She raved and ran about like wild, and was only restrained by strong arms from doing herself violence. Meanwhile the mill was consumed and about 150,000 feet of lumber. The loss is put by Mr. Nelson, president of company, at \$10,000, with no insurance. Everything is being done by the company to alleviate the sufferings of the survivors and to comfort the afflicted relatives. The members of the Calera land company were making an inspection of the property, and had just passed through the mill. As they left the building and climbed the adjacent slope for the purpose of examining some mineral lands, the explosion occurred. In the party were Mr. Nelson, Colonel Thomas, G. Jones, H. C. Moses and other prominent citizens.

At a meeting of the land company held lately it was resolved "that, as a further evidence of the sympathy of the members of the company here present, it is the sense of this meeting that the general managers of this company make suitable provisions at the expense of the company for the burial of the dead and the care of the wounded, and to aid the families of the sufferers."

MILLER'S SUCCESSOR.

Sketch of Mr. Hearst, Appointed to Fill the Unexpired Term.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 26.—Geo. F. Hearst, recently appointed United States Senator to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Miller, is about fifty-five years of age. He is chief proprietor of the San Francisco Examiner, the only democratic morning newspaper in that city, and it is understood that he has published it for years at a considerable loss. Fortunately Mr. Hearst is a very wealthy man. He is generally supposed to be worth several millions of dollars, and has been prominently in many enterprises of the State for more than a quarter of a century. He has never held any public office and has never seemed to seek any. He was near receiving the nomination for Governor which General Stoneman finally obtained, but supported Stoneman's candidature with his newspaper and with all the power and influence he could command. When ex-Governor Leland Stanford was elected United States Senator by a Republican Legislature, Mr. Hearst was the choice of the democratic minority. He has always been a democrat and in full accord with the party, and he is anti-railroads, anti-monopoly and anti-Chinese.

TWO WOMEN FIGHT A DUEL.

LONDON, March 25.—A remarkable duel was fought on the field of Waterloo to-day, the contestants being Mme. Valsayre, a native of France, and Miss Shelby, an American. The duel was the result of a dispute on the relative merits of French and American female doctors. After a stormy altercation Mme. Valsayre threw her glove in Miss Shelby's face and a duel was forthwith arranged. The weapons were swords. Miss Shelby was slightly wounded on the arm. The four seconds were Americans. These expressed themselves satisfied that the duel had been conducted fairly and that honor had been vindicated and insult avenged.

LEMON ELIXIR.

A Christian Editor's Experience.

A Prominent Minister Writes.

An Alabama cotton gin manufacturer has just shipped ten of the most improved machines to Russia. They are consigned to Moscow, and it is thought that the Russian Government wants them to experiment in cotton culture in the Black Sea provinces.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of cutting teeth? If so, send at once a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures dysentery and diarrhoea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of a leading female nurse and physician in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price 25 cents a bottle.

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