

THE NEW PULLMAN FIGHT.

WHY THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL ATTACKED THE CHARTER.

He Says the Strikers Are Not Responsible for the Move, and that He Was Ready to Act in June, but He Decided to Wait—He Feels Confident of Winning in Court.

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—Attorney-General McInerney left the city yesterday morning for St. Paul, Minn., to file a writ for the charter of the Pullman Palace Car Company. He had arranged with his assistant to file the petition, and then decided to take a trip to West Baden Springs, Ind., where he will take the baths and obtain rest.

He declared emphatically that nobody was "betraying him" in the quo warranto proceedings, and it is well known here that he had contemplated such a move during the strike, but was advised by friends to wait.

"Was the determination to attack the Pullman Company's right to its franchise sudden?" Mr. McInerney was asked to-day.

"By no means," he replied. "The facts were known to me in June last. I finished my investigation, which made it clear to me that the original powers had been received from the State and had gone on creating powers of its own until, at the time I began looking into it, it was difficult to see how the original Pullman Company was to be found."

"The Pullman strike began in May. The Attorney-General was asked whether that fact in any way influenced him in making the investigation."

"No," he replied. "I intended to examine the company several days before my friends knew that the strike had begun, and Chicago was plunged into excitement, I decided to withhold the filing of the petition."

"Did any of the strikers call on you?"

"No, not one," he replied.

"The Attorney-General then explained in detail how the Pullman Company had managed to conduct its business."

"The company," he said, "was chartered in 1867 by an act of the Legislature to engage in the manufacture of railroad cars. That is the substance of the act. It empowered a plain manufacturing company and not particularly large one to be organized. What has the Pullman Company done? It has acquired over 500 acres of land at Pullman and Grand Crossing."

"On parts of that land it has built its shops, also fifty acres of houses, tenements, and flats, which it rents. Its charter gives it no such rights. In addition to this it has covered fifteen acres of the city with a park, and has devoted to various purposes, including the Hopkins concern, all for profit. I fall to find that it has been accorded any right to do this by the State."

"The company has built churches to rent, gas works, water works for profit, and police stations, and has done many other things which are not in its charter. What has the State done? It has allowed the company to do these things, and has not interfered. It has allowed the company to do these things, and has not interfered. It has allowed the company to do these things, and has not interfered."

"The hearing on the petition for leave to file a quo warranto writ I expect will be held a week from next Wednesday. It is my intention to press the case with all possible speed, so as to enable it to be taken to the Supreme Court for the October term, and to secure a final adjudication this winter. I have not the slightest doubt of the result."

"It has been clearly decided that a corporation can exercise only such privileges as are provided in its charter or powers growing out of that charter, and that which is not necessary to its continued existence. It is not necessary that a corporation engaged to manufacture cars should do all the things the Pullman Company does to maintain its existence."

"What would be the effect of a decision sustaining the petition you ask?"

"The proceeding is a common law one, and the company's charter is forfeited and its property divided among those entitled to it. The petition speaks for itself. It is true the information will be far more elaborate, and will go into details and specify violations of law on the part of the Pullman Company."

"There is nothing new in this case, so far as the law is concerned. The principles governing the Spring Valley case, which will be tried in September, apply to the Pullman Company, with the additional feature that the Pullman Company, a purely private corporation, is exercising municipal powers."

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It is assumed that the Japanese attack is part of a scheme to keep the Chinese fleet in the Gulf of Pechili while Japan pours troops into Corea."

The news recommends concerted action by the European powers to stop the war between China and Japan, it says:

China and Japan respectively embody conservative and innovating forces. It is therefore natural that western nations should sympathize with Japan. If her ultimate victory were probable, or even within the range of practical possibilities, there might be plausible arguments against intervention."

The permanent defeat of China is almost impossible, and the result, unless the powers interpose, will probably be the extinction of Japanese autonomy and jealous exclusion of "foreign devils" from Japan as well as from Corea.

A mutual jealousy prevents the European powers from acting, there remains the alternative of possible action by the United States.

"That may be contrary to one aspect of the Monroe doctrine and opposed to American ideas, but the situation is exceptional enough to justify a departure from precedent and usage. The fighting cannot continue without seriously injuring the trade of the world."

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