MANCHESTER'S NEW LIFE.

AN ENGLISH CITY THAT DOES NOT FEAR THE TRADE CRISIS.

Revolution Wrought by the Manchester Ship Canal—Trades Unionism and the Cotton Trade Here—Lancashire Outlook for American Cotton Goods in the East—A Great American Enterprise at Manchester.

[illegible] Amid the great mass of industrial evidence on all sides with regard to the trade boom in this still prosperous but [illegible] country, it is difficult to [illegible] It is well worth while, however, [illegible] attention for a little to the spot which [illegible] its title, "the workshop of the world," and to observe its latest development. There will be found rapidly [illegible] the greatest Anglo-American [illegible] enterprise yet undertaken [illegible] all his friends, alas, a nightmare [illegible] not London itself nor any other great trading centre in the world can [illegible] the richest buying agents from every [illegible] on earth, sent to purchase in the Manchester Exchange the products of the mills of the English midlands. I shall discuss the effects the vast trade in the more distant and unfamiliar corners of the globe which can be reached profitably only through England as the general clearing house. This trade, to which many American manufacturers have never given serious thought, has to be reached and developed, incidentally to keeping with their entry into the English domestic market. But for the present I invite attention to the latest industrial features of England's greatest manufacturing district, as set forth in these facts gathered by a member of THE SUN'S London staff.

The people come of a sturdy, self-confident stock in Lancashire. For a hundred years their county has been the foremost and largest workshop in the world. In whatever country people were civilized enough to want things that they had not got, and fortunate enough to have things worth exchanging, there the produce of Lancashire mills found its way. And from all such places there are agents in Manchester to-day looking for what they want for the houses they represent and consigning their purchases to merchants in the East, in Mediterranean ports in South America, and in a diminishing degree in the countries which increasingly satisfy their own wants, such as Germany and the United States. There are 800 business men in Manchester whose daily work is to represent the interests of houses in various countries abroad, big enough to need permanent resident agents and to buy directly from the manufacturer on the exchange where they meet to bargain.

These agents will not remain when their principals can buy elsewhere more profitably. The numbers and their activity are an index of the work done by Lancashire in making the opportunities for making what other peoples want and are not themselves making. The men that count in the manufacturing towns of Lancashire and in the commercial city of Manchester are aware that they are no longer the indispensable middlemen and distributors that they were. Adaptability is their characteristic. They know that history never repeats itself, that the opportunity will not recur, and most of them believe that they will get [illegible] that the future has to offer.

The industry is the most widely [illegible] by no means the exclusive [illegible] of the Lancashire operative. [illegible] would react on other trades, and the number of these is increasing and [illegible] of them are only remotely dependent [illegible] In this multiplication of trades is [illegible] the explanation of the unequalled [illegible] which the Lancashire working [illegible] enjoying. A member of a large cotton [illegible] from Rochdale told the reporter [illegible] wanted to operate another mill. [illegible] hands enough to keep it working full [illegible] the raw stuff to the machinery [illegible] but had to drop the idea im[illegible] hands were not obtainable. [illegible] to complain of regarding the [illegible] He wished they were broader-minded and the cotton operatives' organization was not a great grievance with him. In other quarters one heard other opinions but no thought the tyranny of the union exaggerated save as it concerned cotton.

[illegible] a firm in his own town which employed only non-union men and was doing good business. This was only possible since the defeat of the mechanical engineers in the great strike two years ago. The trade mentioned had now taken unskilled men from the loom, raised their wages somewhat and put them to do work that machinists had had insisted on the exclusive right to do before the strike. There is a firm of machine makers in the county, Messrs. Howard & Bullough of Warrington, that which employs any men belonging to trade unions. It employs every kind of labor-saving machinery and turns out excellent work. From having a good average business a few years ago it has now come to be the most thriving concern in the county in question and shows a net profit of a million and a quarter dollars per annum. Of course adopting the opposite policy there is the great firm of Messrs. Mather & Platt of Salford, among the most widely known engineers in England. The senior partner is an able Radical member of Parliament who has been selected by a Tory Government to work on the commission appointed to introduce business methods into the War Office. Now Messrs. Mather & Platt voluntarily work the eight-hour day with their men and are hand-in-glove with trades unionism. But then they are owners of several most valuable patents, and that enables them to make industrial experiments in the employment of labor which would possibly ruin an ordinary engineering firm which had to fight open competition in a [illegible]

There is a good deal of evidence that the employers are disposed to creep back toward the position from which they were driven by their strike. They profess to have no prejudice to labor-saving machinery, but it is a matter of unwillingly accepting the inevitable. It is true generally that machinery is prevented from doing its full work at minimum cost by the successful insistence in many cases that skilled mechanics at a certain rate of wages shall perform mere [illegible] work in tending each machine. It would be more readily admitted [illegible] where there was less friendly feeling among all classes.

Restriction on output is obvious. If [illegible] anything short of the full capacity of machinery. But it is partly traceable to factory legislation. Much of the work in the cotton mills is done by women [illegible] By act of Parliament they are employed beyond a certain number of hours. It is not worth while to keep [illegible] when they are not available [illegible] without the men's unions [illegible] question, there is a limit to the working of the machinery. It does not turn out all he can, but if it does works his hardest some employees will be displaced as unemployable. The feeling is not one of altruistic [illegible] of the union thrown [illegible] his right to a weekly showing [illegible] of the union. The cotton [illegible] is an old organization [illegible] accumulated fund of subscriptions. There is the fundamental basis of [illegible] unionism and its great drawback. [illegible] a member of the union, a man [illegible] to its funds. Lack of employment [illegible] on its funds, and the more [illegible] unemployed the more those [illegible] have to witness the reduction [illegible] accumulated capital.

[illegible] a family working in a Lancashire cotton mill presents a curious study—fathers, mothers, sons and daughters are all at work during the full prime of the parents' life. They probably live in a cottage rented at 8 shillings a week and in a week their aggregate wages may amount to fifty sterling. Everywhere there are clubs. Each member pays his weekly subscription, and at the end of the year—usually in July—each draws what is owing to him. At Oldham last year about £90,000 was paid out for the year. A master spinner told the reporter of a case where the head of a family had driven out about and a son in this way.

It is primarily supposed to be a benefit fund. But the man, after taking his working family to the seaside for a holiday, had usually much more than half his draft left. He invested it in houses for his own, and in his own neighborhood, through building clubs. As his sons and daughters came to be about two or three-and-twenty they got married and the original household's wages lost to their earnings. This might drop eventually to a bare £1 a week. But then there were the houses and their rentals.

At the other end of the discussion neither the same habits nor conditions of social solidarity prevail. For many miles out of Manchester, in the cotton spinning country, there is nothing approaching or resembling green rural life. But many families of mill owners live on that green, full-worth land all the same. From Manchester through Oldham and Rochdale to Blackburn and Bolton, it is absolutely continuous factories and nothing else but endless rows of factory workers' cottages, with here and there model [illegible] apart, but scarcely less grim, a factory owner's house. The net result is that works the town from a mere contemplation of factories, with their dependent hovels, stretch for their operatives in the church spire pointing its finger towards heaven.

The first cotton mill was set to work in Rochdale in 1776, and the one of its weavers Jacob Bright, the father of John Bright. At the last returns the spindles there numbered 1,750,000 and the [illegible] Its growth depended on the millers' profits, which fed its boiler fires, and the foundries and workshops, which furnished it with textile machinery. Some centuries ago coal was found there and was used to smelt the iron ore in the shale above it. It is a typical spinning town, where factory chimneys now still bear the clang on the stones of the Lancashire clog, the relic of the relief that brought over by the French refugees. The whole countryside is bound up in the tradition of manufacture. At Accrington, where foulards and print cotton are the high cotton arms shows a shuttle and printing machine. Blackburn and Bolton were recalled Manchester itself as a spinning centre, but the combination of opportunity and the quick seizing of it let them [illegible] The trading. The frantic hostility of the weavers in Blackburn against the [illegible] of machinery lost that town [illegible] is still the great centre [illegible] cotton. A great deal of [illegible] and sent to Lyons and respectively [illegible] and South Lancashire [illegible] cotton, which is coarser. The [illegible] fold energies Manchester has, [illegible] being the market and [illegible] the milling towns. It looks [illegible] course, but with more [illegible] population it has less than [illegible] mills.

In the other markets England [illegible] selling her trade in piece goods, of her export of yarns to the continent of Europe, formerly a large total, showed a steady and most disappointing decrease. It had [illegible] about $0,000,000 pounds in each of the last two years, and a recovery was scarcely to be looked for, as the continental houses were now able to turn out their own yarns. The South American trade, a very valuable one, was dropping at present.

The Secretary of the United Cotton Manufacturers' Association, and the official representative of all the employers' federations in that trade told the reporter that things are prosperous with them. In China they had had to give way to America, which was taking the Shanghai trade from them. This he ascribed to the success of the mills at New Orleans, where cheaper labor was obtainable than here. The dyeing processes were better there, he believed, and they also probably had the advantage in better training at their technical schools. The United States sent 30 per cent of their cotton to China and England sent 40 per cent of hers to India. The Chinese market would probably go in the main to America as the freights favored her, yet England had reason to believe she could keep a considerable share. The Indian demand was good this year. Turkey and the Levant were not good and the Egyptian crop was small.

On the general question of Lancashire holding her own, he said it was not a question of enterprise and the best machinery. One might find two mills next door to each other. The mill working new machinery was paying, while in the factory which clung to the old it was now scarcely possible to make a profit. It complained of bad trade when really its own lack of enterprise was to blame. The relations of the employers and the unions were tolerably smooth at present. In the big strike the engineers and machinists got licked, and work went well in consequence. He saw signs of the men trying again to interfere with the free use of labor-saving appliances. It cost rather more to make a pound of cotton now than it did a year ago. That was partly due to a slight increase in wages, and partly to the higher assessment of factories for purposes of local taxation.

In other quarters the reporter learned that a syndicate has been formed to operate seven new cotton mills, which are to be built at once, in the neighborhood of Manchester. There is nowhere evidence that capitalists expect a shrinkage on this industry from competition. Other countries may be gaining a greater relative share in the trade, but the world's demand—probably through civilization making the various races of the East want more manufactured cotton—is increasing so much that Lancashire is too busy to notice seriously the advancing prosperity of her rivals. Her spinners say that if their men are slow they put a lot of stuff into their work and that this gives them a sure market for the best class of goods.

This confidence in to-morrow is born of a great enterprise now in the first years of its working, which battled through much discouragement to lustily its champions, and transform the city that gave it a name. The Manchester ship canal still pays no dividend to its ordinary shareholders. It was to have cost £5,000,000 sterling, and it actually cost about £15,000,000. But against this there should be set the truth that it stopped a withering industrial decay, and brought to its banks vast undertakings now entering on their work. In the years before the canal, factories and warehouses were falling empty every month. Great firms such as Sharp, Stewart & Co., the locomotive makers, transferred their plant, business and belongings to Glasgow as it were from a declining to a thriving centre. Now we have shipping firms moving their headquarters locally from Hartlepool to Manchester. Enormous engineering works are springing up. The Westinghouse firm from the United States is setting up sumptuously and on an imposing scale what will be the centre for the entire European continent for electrical appliances.

The story of how Manchester faced the new problem and the new conditions how it recognized the close of Lancashire's great mid-century prosperity, determined not to accept supinely the blight of idleness, but to bring itself abreast of the best, could not be told of any other great city in Europe. Within ten miles of Manchester Exchange there are 3,000,000 of people, and 5,000,000 in a fifty-mile radius. Over this area they are building every day. The bricklayers are getting an increase of wages to a shilling an hour, probably without a strike. As any man who can plant potatoes can lay bricks, the good times have evidently spread to even the lowest rungs of the social ladder. These times are the first years of Manchester's ship canal.

The progressive energy on a great scale which is the characteristic of the same enterprise in America is an idea in some of the greatest minds managing up for its side are in fact. In its inception it was regarded by great Liverpool shipping interests as a trading venture which thought that Manchester had enough to do without being made a seaport. Liverpool shipping interests were for the most part Conservatives, and for the Liberal Manchester to do so was to go under. And now that it is done, we see factories, warehouses and workhouses brought into Salford and a fresh wave of thriving life spread to the dense and widespread population of the adjoining counties. Mills that were on the narrow margin between profit and loss are doing well by the reduction of freights which the canal has effected. Old envelope firms spread fifteen in freights alone in three years.

Against these new opportunities there is the unmistakable energizing British workman. When Christmas comes round he takes not the day but the whole week for a holiday. When the New Year comes he does the same. A minority may be after his job, but it is not likely, since he is the ordinary going outside the shoes will come in.

The Washington Ship, which is now completing a hundred miles navigable for ocean ships, is another sign of the times. It cost a year ago to the Trafford Park estate then being sold in lots. For 200 years the ancestors of Sir Humphrey de Trafford had been lords of the manor there. Some of the elegant sides of modern fashion had overtaken him and his three miles of wooded lands, ground for home had to go. There sought the roaring sea of Ernest Hooley, who brought of the dead and sold the park for a company. The negotiations of Taylor is mostly done now and the business carried on in the park, which lies alongside the canal, includes five engineering firms, three boiler works, and saw mills, corn mills, card mills, [illegible] and oil importers. The Waring house is the biggest concern. It is putting up houses for 3,000 mechanics at a rental of from $[illegible] to $[illegible] a week, equipped with hot and cold water taps and electric light. The money spent on this settlement came in the age of Fifty Fourth streets and Sixth avenues. Note among the congregation of the United Kingdom it is three miles in and been shipped in salons. The company has in this respect probably been over-sanguine as to what can be done by a [illegible] [illegible]

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RUSSIA'S WISE DIPLOMACY.

SEVERAL GOOD REASONS FOR ITS GREAT SUCCESS.

The Story of Capt. Sevelsky, Who Fired Advanced Manchurian Frontiers for Russia and How He Was Punished—Is Nicholas I. Still the Same Method He Pursued in China at the Prague Court?

[illegible]

CLEVER FEATURES OF LIFE

Sold Their Bodies in a Bottle for $3

[illegible]

The Lurid Telephone

[illegible]

Buzzer's Devouring Sheep Alive

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

[illegible] sheep at Hawk's [illegible] miles west of here [illegible] sheep [illegible] and blood [illegible] appetites are [illegible] The poor defenceless animals appear entirely [illegible] the butcher. The buzzer bites and the sheep [illegible] necessary to resort to the use of the slinger. Some of the sheep have died.

Fisherman's Luck.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

BROADWAY, [illegible] A letter was received today by Mrs. Rebecca Blair from her son, Oscar Blair, in which he tells a wonderful story of riches. He is 18 years of age. Three years ago he went to the State of Washington, and got work on a railroad at Tunnel City. He writes his mother that he and his chum were fishing, and that while he was trying to land a trout he tumbled down a fifteen foot embankment into the creek, carrying a large of quartz with him. This exposed nuggets of gold. They established their claim, he says, and are now sinking a shaft. Old miners have assured him that his find will make him a rich man, and he writes that he has heard that the property of which he is half owner is worth several millions.

Unlettered Politeness.

From the Louisville Commercial.

He was a poor but honest working man on his way home in a Broadway car. As the car proceeded downtown it was filled with passengers, and soon the aisle was crowded, some swinging on the straps. The laborer got up from his seat, touched his hat and motioned to a well-dressed lady to take it.

"Don't let me deprive you of your seat, my poor man," she said.

He touched his hat and again replied: "Oh, take it, that's all right. No depravity at all, woman, no depravity at all," and he wondered why everybody smiled.

From Gay to Grave.

From the Philadelphia Record.

There is an usher at one of the downtown theatres who is a professional pallbearer during the day. "I get," he says, "$2.50 for every pallbearing engagement, and I like the work. It is, you see, such a complete and pleasant change from my theatrical employment. I must wear a gala smile at the theatre at all times, and the gayety there, the mirth and lightheadedness prove very monotonous. I long for something in gloomy black, with a look of gloom in my eyes, and the sobs I hear, the groans, the lamentations and the lugubrious music are very soothing to me after the eternal heartless jollity of the playhouse. The two kinds of work diversify my life. I touch on two extremes. I make, besides, a good deal of money. I have made $30 a week as a pallbearer. At the theatre my salary is only $7.50. There are certain perquisites at the theatre, however, perquisites won through seating people, which materially increase my income. It is not an uncommon thing among us ushers to be pallbearers during the day."

Sixty-two Cents per Case Word.

From the Philadelphia Record.

STROUDSBURG, Pa., Dec. 30.—It will cost 62 cents per swear if you swear in Portland, a little town below the Water Gap. Swearing has become so obnoxious to some of the inhabitants that they have determined to enforce the old law against profanity.

Got a Baby on a Christmas Tree.

From the Chicago Tribune.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 27.—A live baby, chirping and crowing from the limb of a Christmas tree, was the present which Fred L. McClellan and his wife of 337 East Sixteenth street received at the family reunion.

The baby was the gift of Ira H. Shattuck, Mrs. McClellan's father, the proprietor of the Hotel Nicollet. The whole thing was arranged by Mr. Shattuck with the assistance of members of his family. It gave him the blues, he said, to enter his daughter's house and not find a toddler or two. Mr. Shattuck got into the parlor where a mammoth tree had been stationed, and on a safe, stout limb he hung the baby by its broad girdle. The baby, which is nearly a year old, kept as still as could be.

The baby's parents are friends of the McClellan's, but owing to unfortunate circumstances they are unable to care for it properly.

Made Herself Some Teeth.

From the Chicago Tribune.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 28.—Mrs. John T. Schermerhorn of Milwaukee startled a dentist at La Crosse by exhibiting a set of front teeth she had cut from a common beef bone. They are perfectly formed and were made during spare moments to fill a space made vacant by the loss of her natural ones and to satisfy the woman's whim to do something novel. They were made with a common knife and a file while sitting in front of a mirror in her little workshop.

A Matter of Interest to Real Estate Dealers.

All necessary Real Estate News is printed in complete detail each day in THE SUN. You need this in your business. No other paper gives such attention to this detail.—Adv.

[illegible] pounds and four pounds a week. That was the limit beyond which he could not advance, and, being young and ambitious, he went to America and prospered. There were hundreds like him. This manufacturer gave a suggestive reason for what he regards as the essentially different class of work turned out from England and from America. It was, he said, the climate. This country was noted for steady, slow, incessant work, and the greatest find places of staff in its factories with equally greatest capacities of endurance. It was impossible, he insisted, to assemble a number of independent workers, and the result is the wind and a million of mechanics. It should be added that this superintendent, when pressed to the moral of American competition, took a sufficiently sober and serious view of the future of his own trade in a race contest in the world. [illegible]

[illegible] Russian police apart from the exceptionally favorable conditions in which it is forced, of which the directors are easily able to enjoy the full and profitable advantages in capturing and carrying off rubles, after the first and foremost of these conditions are undoubtedly mystery and secrecy, which are not allowed to be penetrated or broken on any account, unless and in the contrary case the purpose of the government.

"There is no cabinet at St. Petersburg, except that of the Emperor, which is merely one of the offices of the Ministry of the Imperial Household, unencumbered with politics of any kind. Russian foreign policy is guided fundamentally or really, as the case may be, by the Czar himself, with the assistance of his vice-chancellor, Minister in that particular department. Among all the 130,000,000 of his Majesty's subjects not another single man's opinion is of the slightest consequence, unless it is asked for, and not often even then. The Emperor Paul once said that no man in the Russian Empire was so any independent except the one to whom he spoke, and then only so long as he was speaking to him.

"If any official blunder is made it is rectified without anybody outside knowing that it ever has been committed. No democratic criticism is tolerated in the press, and no explanation is allowed to be asked for. Adverse comment on the acts of the government in foreign affairs is extremely rare, and then it is always either disguised in allegory, or couched in the most general and abstract form. Russian editors long ago discovered that the safest plan for themselves was to glorify every act of their own government and denounce everything done by the Government of every other country. Russian newspaper criticism in any case is purely academical, without any force in practical politics. A Minister can either learn from it, treat it with disdain, or have it stopped according to his humor. A terrible example of how the latter course is pursued is at this very moment being given to an astonished world by Gen. Bobrikoff in Finland.

"All outgoing and incoming telegrams on foreign affairs are, in Russia, strictly controlled and revised by a censor acting under continual instructions from the Foreign Office, and even official declarations of a British Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the House of Commons have been entirely suppressed in this way on reaching St. Petersburg by telegraph. At the same time the Russian press is privately admonished in regard to its tone and comments, either through the Ministry of the Interior, instigated by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, or through other available channels. The only exception to this is the free hand always allowed to Russian editors in attacking England, and this is all that could possibly have been meant by the assertion made here at different times to several British Ambassadors that the Russian Foreign Office never interferes with the native press in its discussion on foreign affairs. Unfortunately, the Ambassadors in question were not sufficiently acquainted with the secret tricks played upon the Russian press to appreciate the point of this otherwise inaccurate statement.

"And nowadays Russian Emperors, as a rule, never talk politics with foreign Ambassadors. That practice has been as good as abandoned ever since the Emperor Nicholas I. created such difficulties for his Government by discussing his startling proposal to dispose of the property of the Sick Man on the Bosporus with Sir G. H. Seymour in 1854. It is not surprising if in such conditions Russia has been able to score successes and to spring surprises on the world.

"There is, however, one difficulty and thorn in the flesh with which Russian diplomacy has to contend, and that is the occasional opposition of the powerful military element. The extent to which this party dominates in the country may be estimated by the fact that a great part of European Russia is under the rule of military Governors General, while every where in Russian Asia Generals of the army reign supreme. On the eastern confines of the Empire they have always been on the lookout for profitable opportunities and their military superiors in St. Petersburg have seldom been slow to back them up, in spite of the attempts of the Foreign Office to preserve peace and quietness. This conflict between Russian diplomacy and the military authorities in Asia, of which there have been many instances in recent years, has been more conspicuously displayed than in connection with the present outbreak in Manchuria. From the very commencement, at a moment, perhaps, when Gen. Sakharoff and his colleagues had actually made up their minds to accept the Chinese offer of a Russian Protectorate over Manchuria, the Russian military authorities, backed by the Viceroy of the East, Admiral Alexieff, had published orders to the effect that the Russian frontier should be advanced to the Yalu River, and that the Russian troops would be withdrawn from Manchuria as soon as there was no longer any necessity for their presence. But Russian military authorities have a diplomacy of their own, and it is not the early Russian diplomacy whether the parallel with the case of Nevelsky. As far as I guess, will be carried any further.

GREAT GAMBLING AT HELENA.

The Montana Legislature Is About to Meet and the Faro Fruit Has Been Ripened.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 9.—"I reckon," said an old Montana gambler. "that there is no town in the country where you can get such a bunch to breaking the tiger as you can right here in this little spot in the mountains. The Legislature meets here next week, and that may be the cause of the abnormal raise, but no matter what the cause is, I hardly expect to see any one kicking because he can't bet all he wants to on the single turn of a card. There is a faro game right here in Helena with a one-thousand-dollar limit on singles, and it will be a career I've seen no man holler for a bigger limit. We've rich along for years with a final variling from $12 to $100 on a card, and so nobody satisfy the demand. We have social exceptions, but I understand there is to be an unprecedentedly heavy game this winter, and after a consultation we have decided to place the limit at $1,000 on each of the fifty-two cards in the deck, and I imagine that will satisfy 'em all.

"And the raise of the limit from $100 to $1,000 is not based which on sentiment, either. During the last session of the Legislature we had a private game for a young man with a five-hundred-dollar limit right after the grand jury's investigation of the Senatorial contest, and in just fourteen hours he lost $75,000, or about $5,000 an hour, which is, I guess, one of the steepest games ever played in Montana. But he came back the next day to show that he was true blue and won back $100,000 in an even shorter time. This man sent word over that he would be here again this winter, and he wanted a one-thousand-dollar limit. This time, after it was partly at his request that the limit was raised, but, of course, the game is open to all, and anyone can have the same privilege.

"And not only can the highest limit in the West be secured here, but on equal in the most magnificently furnished gambling house to be found in the country. I have travelled from coast to coast and while some private clubs are more elaborate, and have costlier paintings, for a public gambling house the swellest of 'em all is right here in this town. Why, the lookout has a fine chair to recline in than the governor of the State. Yes, I've played in Congress Hall at Saratoga, and dealt in all the first-class resorts, and know whereof I speak.

"The Montana Anti-Gambling law? Yes, there is one, and it is probably as strict in its provisions as any to be found in the country. But don't you know that old adage about mining camps and faro games, that is, where you find the first named you will also find the other? And do you suppose that after having played faro in Montana all the years since the first discovery of gold in Alder Gulch in '63 these men would send a man to the penitentiary for simply indulging in their favorite pastime? Preposterous! There has not been a conviction under the law, and there never will be. In fact the law is such a dead letter that it will probably be repealed this winter.

"Any high rolling lately?" asked the reporter.

"Yes, we have had a pretty stiff play all the year. Swede Sam is $80,000 to the good inside of sixteen months. Sam is not a bad record by any means, and there are several others who have won and lost fortunes in that time.

"But I mean individual plunging," said the questioner.

"Yes, had some of that, too. Young fellow came over here from Butte on a special train not long ago to sit up the game for a friend. He won a big stake there. He arrived at about 4 o'clock in the morning, after most of the sports had retired. He didn't do a thing but hire some hacks and send for a few friends with the request that they join him in a game of poker. The game was kept full to the last and between $75,000 and $80,000 changed hands before 10 o'clock that morning. That is, he carried that much back to Butte with him, in addition to the stake he had on arrival. His train cost him $400, but he could easily afford that after winning over $75,000.

"Then, again, a Utah mining man lost $22,000 at roulette in one night, after having been $20,000 to the good at one stage of the game. He had a fine run of luck on numbers, which pay 35 for 1, you know, so that when he won he received $5,250 in return.

Reported Friction at Shan Hai Kwan.

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 9.—A late issue of the Japan Mail in an account of friction of Shan Hai Kwan says: "The work of pier construction was intrusted to a British firm and suddenly it was abandoned, owing to instructions received from the Foreign Office at London. It is reported that the British are withdrawing from the island of Ching Wem, that the French have carried away the timbers for the railway and that the Russians are formulating a demand for possession of the island. Field Marshal Count von Waldersee's authority does not appear to be satisfactorily exercised. If such friction continues in the field, consent in the Cabinet will be difficult."

MUST WOMEN PAY TAXES?

IT MAY BE ANTHONY AND HER SISTER IN THAT THE QUESTION.

Will Pay the Taxes on the Anthony Homestead Under Protest and Will Then Bring Suit—The Question of Woman Suffrage at Issue—Other Women Interested.

[illegible] Miss Susan B. Anthony [illegible] the county assessor of Monroe county, will pay the taxes on the property in dispute with the proceeds of the lecture tour of the Misses Anthony, which ended last night at Corinthian Hall. This work [illegible] but there is an [illegible] the determination, [illegible] Officer declare that they have [illegible] without consulting [illegible] to pay the tax, [illegible] Miss Anthony will refuse [illegible] taxes. [illegible] will make a [illegible] and then the issue will [illegible] Then an action [illegible] and a Com[illegible] Miss Anthony will appeal to the [illegible] suffrage issue will [illegible]

[illegible] Susan B. Anthony [illegible] It is a little [illegible] and sev[illegible] of the issue [illegible] the Misses Anthony [illegible] percentage. It [illegible] women who work [illegible] Meetings were [illegible] when the question of woman [illegible] of Rochester was [illegible] other movements either [illegible] have had [illegible] three four walls. The [illegible] was mostly made [illegible]

[illegible] little piece of land [illegible] was assessed at $[illegible]. The [illegible] property are $[illegible] Miss Anthony is the one against whom [illegible] The notification came [illegible] and the two women [illegible] They had talked it [illegible] years, so it was [illegible] The result of it was [illegible] Miss Anthony sat down and [illegible] It was in a plain, easily [illegible] The period was placed [illegible] County Treasurer [illegible] Miss Mac Anthony, then [illegible] West Avenue car and rode to the [illegible] Miss Anthony sat in that car [illegible] Republic was spending up the tax [illegible] Tuesday.

[illegible] the office [illegible] were engaged [illegible] Miss Anthony [illegible] women. Miss Anthony [illegible] and had to [illegible] get into the little [illegible] office. She introduced herself and handed him the [illegible] taking a seat facing [illegible] read the communication [illegible] part which said:

"In the United States, as [illegible] the State of New York and am of [illegible] not enfranchised for any [illegible] the right of suffrage, and am therefore taxed without representation."

Mr. Hamilton remarked that he supposed the communication meant that Miss Anthony would not pay taxes.

"It means exactly that," replied his visitor. "It is against and contrary to the principles that lie at the foundation of this government of which you are a part, but of which I am not."

"Very well," replied Mr. Hamilton. "You could sell the property."

"How is that?"

"Why, if the tax is not paid by the first of February, you will be charged 6 per cent. in addition to the sum already charged."

Miss Anthony became thoughtful for a moment, and then said that she believed she would pay the tax but would do so under protest. She would later begin an action to declare the tax unconstitutional. Mr. Hamilton told Miss Anthony that he had no discretion in the matter, but that he was forced to make his collections in accordance with the laws as they stood. This closed the interview, except that Miss Anthony and Mr. Hamilton could give the matter to the newspapers if he chose.

When several newspaper reporters called at the Anthony home they were met by Miss Susan B. Anthony, who talked freely about the proposed legal complications. She declared that they would contest the matter in the lower courts and in all the legal complications that would probably result she intimated that there would be no trouble in getting financial and moral help. The suffrage clubs have got women to work, she said, but that they would no doubt become interested.

Years ago, in 1872, Miss Anthony filed a similar protest with the County Clerk, but it was disregarded, and other matters were so pressing that the Misses Anthony did not force the issue. At about the same time a petition was sent to the Legislature asking for exemption from taxation unless women were allowed to vote. The petition met an untimely end.

The Misses Anthony had fair to attain the same prominence in this action that they did early when together with Mrs. Hannah Anthony, Mrs. Mary S. Hibbard, Mrs. Nancy M. Chapman, Mrs. Jane M. Cogswell, Mrs. Martha N. French, Mrs. Margaret Leeden, Mrs. Lottie Belles Anthony, Miss Anna Chalfant, Mrs. Susan M. Hough, Mrs. Sarah Truesdale, Mrs. Mary Pulver, Mrs. Phoebe Ann Anthony, Mrs. Amelia Anthony McLean and Miss Ellen L. Baker, all of the Eleventh ward, they were indicted for knowingly voting without having a lawful right to vote. In the United States Court at Canandaigua Susan B. Anthony was tried. She was defended by John Van Voorhis and Henry Selden. Justice Ward Hunt, before whom the action was tried, found Miss Anthony guilty without sending the case to the jury. She was fined $100 but never paid the fine, saying that she would die rather than do it. President Grant finally remitted the fine.

CONGRESSMEN FROM CITIES.

A Significant Gain of Republican Representatives in the Next House.

The Republican majority in the Fifty-seventh House of Representatives will be forty over all opposition. A much larger proportion of the cities of the country will have Republican Representatives in it than is the case in the present Congress. This fact becomes of importance when it is recalled that the cities, which by the recent Federal census had nearly 20,000,000 population, had less than 15,000,000 in 1890 and less than 10,000,000 in 1880.

The growth of population is now largest in the cities, but in these heretofore most of the Representatives have been Democrats, and this is especially true of the larger cities. Thus, New York in the present Congress has not a solitary Republican Representative in the lower house. Chicago has four Republicans to three Democrats, Boston has two Democrats, Buffalo one Democrat and one Republican, Louisville, Kansas City, and Jersey City one Democrat each, Baltimore one Democrat and one Republican, New Orleans two Democrats and Atlanta, Columbus, Memphis, Richmond and Fort Wayne one Democrat each.

In the next Congress there will be three Republicans from the Metropolitan district of New York, a solid Republican delegation of five instead of four Republicans and one Democrat from Boston, two Republicans from St. Louis, two from Pittsburg and Allegheny City, three from Chicago, two from San Francisco, two from Baltimore, one from Detroit, one from New Haven, two from Cincinnati, two from Cleveland, one from Milwaukee, each one from Albany, Buffalo and Lincoln. City Representatives exercise a really a larger measure of influence on legislation in Washington than those from country districts, for the reason that the latter are in closer touch with their constituents.

The rural constituent expect the Congressman to devote part of his time to their personal affairs and to hold himself, at all times, in readiness to explain his action on any measure or his absence from the roll.

The city Congressman is usually under no such obligation. He is little known, rarely seen, by his constituents, is seldom written to by any