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DIARY FROM MARCH 17TH 18 99
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"COMMON CAUSE"

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MARY AND HER LANDLORD.

Mary opened a little shop,
To help her on life's way;
And honest toll found its reward,
And it began to pay.
"How's biz?" the landlord often asked,
And Mary was imprudent;
Of course, she never guessed he was
An economic student.
But Mary's landlord's eagle eye
Was watching how things went,
And when the first of May came round,
He doubled Mary's rent.
The imposition staggered her,
But what could Mary do?
Subsistence bare is the tenant's share,
All above the landlord's due.
So Mary kept on as before,
Improving as time went;
But step by step with increasing trade,
The landlord raised the rent.
And thus the merry game went on,
Till Mary's life was spent,
As fast as God could prosper her,
The landlord raised the rent.
—Anon.

I.A.
JOSIAH COCKING'S DIARY.

Portion of a ~~xxxx~~ letter written by me to Mother:- (The first part is lost) " 9. Fred in search of a house. As we could not find one suitable he went up with me to Kadina & introduced me to Mrs. Mitchell, the wife of Math Mitchell's brother. She keeps a fruit & lolly shop & boarding house combined next to Herbert, the butcher. I arranged with Mrs. Mitchell to stay a week at her house, to eat & sleep there--both of us-- for 28/- being 16 for me & 12 for Jinny, which I paid in advance. She seems a nice woman: she belongs to the Salvation Army. I had no time to see the manager of the mines, but I intend to try to see him to-morrow. Most people seem to think that I will easily get work on the surface; & they say I can then get a cottage of the Company for about 1/6 a week. Now I will return to our trip from Melbourne. We left Melbourne at 9 p.m. last Wednesday. Just before starting I posted a letter to you; so you probably know before this how we fared up to that time. When we got outside of the harbour the steamer began to roll, but not pitch. There was no need for it to pitch, however, for Jinny & I did enough of it for all practical purposes; which reminds me that tin cans are very handy things on the side of a bunk. The weather was windy until we got about half way over from Melbourne to Adelaide; but from there the wind was very light & the sea smooth until we arrived at the Port ~~Melbourne~~ Adelaide wharf. I didn't send a telegram from there because I thought it would be better to send one from Kadina & let you all know we had arrived all right. When we did get here it was 2 in the afternoon; & by the time that I got things all settled for the night it was too late to telegraph to you. I then intended to send by wire on Monday, but as I found that I could not see captain Hancock till Monday I finally decided to write this instead of paying 2/- for sending much less news than I could send for 2 pence. We arrived here with 3 pounds seventeen shillings to spare, of which we still have 2 pounds nine. They pay underground men fortnightly, & surface men monthly here. Yesterday was pay-day; so if I get work to-morrow it will be a month before I get any money. However, tucker is pretty cheap here, they say, & as I am almost certain to get work in a few days at the farthest, & have a week's board & lodging paid for we shall have plenty of money to do us till we get some more. I know you are all anxious to know all about everybody, but I must finish for a time, or this will be too heavy. I will write full particulars as soon as I get work. I hope Mother & all the rest are quite well, as we are at present. In the meantime this is to be continued in our next, & we remain yours affectionately, Joe & Jinny. Address in care of Mrs. S. Mitchell, Graves Street, Kadina, South Australia."

The foregoing letter was probably written in March or the

2. A.
early part of April.

Copy of a letter to Mother:- " Wallaroo Mines, South Hos, 12-15 p.m., Sun. July 17, 1899. Dear Mother, Father, Sister, Brothers, Jim, May, (very soon I suppose it will be dear Ethel) we are glad to find in your letter of the 7th inst. that you were all well. We are both quite well, & Jinny would be happy only for the loss of the children. I am still building away at the house & have now got it half way up on 2 sides, & have begun to build the jambs of the chimney. Yesterday Will Trezise helped me to build until dark. He is about the only one that assists me yet; but Alf Brokenshire (Dan's son) has promised to help me to put the roof on when I am ready for it. Alf & his young brother Dan work in the mines' carpenters' shop. Their Father died a year or 2 ago. Some time before he died he gave up drinking beer & spirits. Tommy Brokenshire works here in the mines at something, but I don't know what it is. Frank Tamblin comes over sometimes to where I am building, but he never helps. He told me that his brothers, Will & Jim are over at Boulder City in W.A. & that Jim & his wife & 3 children are doing all right. I am sorry to find that the cold weather is giving you so much trouble & pain, Mother; perhaps you don't take enough care of yourself. Perhaps you sit too long on the front verandah talking with Mrs. Roy at night. Tell the stoker to "get in the fire", especially if she's fat, & you'll have a good fire. Take care of yourself, Mother, & take plenty of Clement's tonic, & don't growl too much at poor unfortunate Ethel. You say that Bob & Charley are very tired when they get home from work. Well, it's no wonder they're tired after walking such a long way, working in a narrow bord, & then tramping home again. I hope it will make them open their eyes to see what a bad thing the private ownership of collieries is for wage-slaves like themselves. I won't say any more on this subject, for I know you don't like to have anything said against the abominable scoundrels who drove me away from home, & crush the other members of our family with hard & unnecessary labour. I hope Bob's hand is all right by this time. I'll send you some Bates' salve if you like. You say that Jack Collinson wants some rape seed. Well, I'll send over a packet to you after next pay day, which is a fortnight off yet. You can then sell it to Collinson. We have not seen any of Charley's family lately, but when we do see them we will ask them why they don't write to you. I don't think they are very anxious to have anything to do with any of us. You want to know what I think about Ethel, Mother. Well, as you say none are perfect, & I don't suppose Ethel is an exception to the rule. At the same time I don't think she is so bad as you think she is. I don't attach much value to your opinion of girls, for you very greatly misjudged Jinny. Ethel is very frivolous minded & wild-spirited, but she is not bad minded. Indeed she is just such a girl as I would like for a sister-in-law, provided she gave up dancing & took some interest in the welfare of hu-

3. A.

manity. She is very handy with a needle, which would suit you to a nicety, Mother, when you have clothes to make. But there I don't want to act in the capacity of a Devil's advocate. Let Ethel paddle her own canoe, as I did mine: & may she bring it safely into port! We thank you all in anticipation for the 2 nice pictures that you intend to send us. We are glad to see that you are going to send Mr. & Mrs. Trezise a present each. They are well worthy of a good one. You say that you can not make out the view of the mines. Well it's no wonder, for there has been a tremendous alteration all over the place. Old pulley-stands have been taken down & different ones erected; new roads have been made; railway lines have been laid all over the mines; the whole of the surface arrangements are entirely different now from what they used to be. Everything is done in the best & cheapest possible manner. At Taylor's floors a very great alteration has taken place, & even now things are being still further improved in a labour-saving direction. Nearly everything on the floors is dressed on a raised floor & run into trucks through shutters. And the hurdy-gurdys are displaced by elevators which screen the smalls & ~~the~~ ~~toppings~~ load the toppings & fine smalls into separate trucks which are sent to the Devon or Elders crusher & jigged there. There are a lot of buddles at Kurilla & at the Devon, & there are a lot more being built at Devon. They deal with the slime. Taylor's old bell has been removed to Elders, but it is only used when there is not enough steam up to blow the whistle there. No work is done at either Elder's or Boor's floors now, & there is none done at Homes' floors. Taylor's & Office shafts are the only ones where floors work is done. The old ropers' house was burnt down some time ago & a new place was built on the site, & is now used as a practising room for the Federal Brass Band. The company has a splendid little locomotive engine to pull the trucks about. I don't know the driver, but the stoker is Bill Cavanagh. Young Harry Datson is driving Homes' old engine, which winds from office shaft but not from Homes'. The floors bosses here now are nearly all different from those who were here when we left. Captains Dunstan & Pengelly are the floors bosses, & Tom Cliff is the blacksmiths' boss. Jack Daddow, who used to live on a farm with his father & brother Sam, is now the boss of the fitters. Old captain Skinner is here yet. Old captain Mitchell is the timekeeper on the floors. He is reported to be a wealthy man, & has a large number of shares in these mines. Out at Kurilla there are captain Paul & Bill Jennings (son of old Joe Jennings who now has charge of a lot of tools, & sets up shovels, etc. Bill Stevens is a bit of a boss over Taylor's floormen; & old man Toy (Joe's father)"

The remainder of this letter has been lost.

1.

DIARY WRITTEN BY JOSIAH COOKING.

1.

Copy of a telegram received at Boundary Street, Wallsend, in reply to a letter I sent to Mr. Lipson Hancock, manager of the ~~Wallerawang~~ mines at Wallaroo Mines, South Australia, asking for employment there.

"Telegram from Kadina, South Australia, addressed to Mr. Josiah Cooking, Boundary Street, Wallsend..

Good prospect constant employment surface providing you give satisfaction. Signed H. Lipson Hancock, address Wallaroo Mines, 17th Mar. 1899.

Copy of deLargie's letter to me:-

" Miners' Institute, Kalgoorlie, 14th May, 1899. Dear Joe, I was glad to hear from you, but sorry to see by your letter that you had not arrived at a place where you would be any better off financially than the part of the mud ball that you left. From what I hear from men coming from that part of South Australia, wages are "bedrock", & conditions-- well, a generation behind Newcastle. It's bad enough to slave for the miserable wages that are that are paid there, but when a man dare not mention unionism or call his soul his own I think a man of your type wont put up with it very long. Of course I am old enough to know that there are lots of things we must do whether we like 'em or not, but when a man shifts from the place where his relatives & friends are domiciled, & travels so far as you have it is not too much to expect wages & conditions to be at least as good as the place he has left behind. But I hope when payday arrives that you were better remunerated than at the figure (4/6) you were told was the starting price for surface men. We held a very successful trade congress in Coolgardie last month at which I had the honour to preside. Delegates from all parts of the fields as well as Perth & Fremantle were present. It was the first gathering of the kind in Westralia, & was representative of a larger number of people than the Perth parliament represents. The congress was remarkable in passing a motion affirming the desirability of nationalising the means of production for the benefit of all. I don't mean to say that this is the first congress to attain this unique position. The official report is in the hands of the printer. When it comes to hand I will send you a copy.

You say you were surprised to find the "Tocsin" was against Federation. Well, perhaps you will be shocked to learn that I am not against federation either: moreover I am going to vote for the enabling bill if I get the opportunity. I think I hear you ejaculate that I am politically lost. But if you were in this colony & understood the backwardness of politics here I believe you would be of the same opinion as me on Federation. I look upon it as a political godsend to this colony, suffering as it is by a minority rule plural voting & pocket borough system of government.

2.

We have been fighting hard to remedy these evils, but have, up to the present, met with no success. The Forrest Government will not listen to reason or submit to justice. The goldfields with one half of the male population of the colony has 4 members in a parliament of 44 members. In the Kalgoorlie there are 5000 electors on the roll returning one member; & down on the coast there are members sent into parliament by 37 electors (De Grey). In the Ashburton there are 57; East Kimberley 85; Irwin 100, & so on. At the present time we have 11 members returned by 1475 electors. These outrageous anomalies work out thus:-

Every individual pastoralist has the 162nd share of a representative, & every miner has the 1027th share of a representative. Taking them proportionately man to man the pastoralist has 6 votes; the agriculturist 3 votes; & the miner has less than one vote. Of course when we include the abandoned fields in the nor-west it brings the average much higher, for the miners, than exists on the Coolgardies, where we have 4 members for 12000 democratic electors; & at the same time 9211 on the coast return 29 members. I think I have given you enough figures, to explain why I am ready & willing to accept a Constitution which provides every man in the colony with a vote, & that vote at least as powerful as any other man's vote. At present we have not payment of members, & see small hopes of it being passed by this parliament, but the Labour Party intends to run candidates for both houses of the federal parliament. At the congress it was declared that we should run 6 candidates for the senate, so you see we are not greedy, but we like the whole lot.

As regards work, it is still hard to secure a job if out of employment. I have been fortunate to be very seldom out so far. You don't say anything about whether you would care about trying the West, in your last. But I suppose you will have a better idea by this time whether you are going to like Wallaroo Mines or not, & perhaps I will hear more about it in your next letter. I was glad to hear that Mrs. Cocking and yourself were well, as this leaves me in the same state.

Trusting to hear from you soon I remain yours fraternally
Hugh de Largie."

Copy of my letter to Mother:-

"Wallaroo Mines, South Australia, Sun. May 21, 1899.

Dear Mother, Father, Sister, Brothers, & the rest of the family. I have very much pleasure in moving that the best thanks of this household be given to you for sending 2 letters, & 7 papers yesterday, & several papers on previous days since we arrived here. All in favour will please signify in the usual manner. Carried. We, or I, have more reading matter now than time to get the pleasure of reading it. But I won't say don't

send any more papers until I have time to read them, because Jinny reads portions of them & tells me what she reads. I have been working with the carpenters at Kurilla for about a fortnight, taking down screens & putting a new one up; & as it is too far for me to come home to dinner I fold up a paper & put it in my pocket, & when dinner time comes I transfer the contents of tucker-can to my stomach, & the contents of the paper to my brains. I have not finished last month's papers yet; but never mind, they will keep fresh till I get time. Besides these papers I have a pamphlet entitled "John Bull, Esquire", which a young chap lent me a good while ago; & in addition to all these there are several books that I bought on the way over. And when I have finished what I have to read, there is the Mines Reading Room to tackle. All that is required now is time-- & plenty of it.

I have nearly got the foundation of the kitchen built in. It was too hard, & took too long, to bump holes with a moil through the hard limestone, so I reverted to my original intention to build the walls between boards. So far no one has come to help us to build, but a few who came over through curiosity were probably ashamed to go away without doing a few minutes' work. Jinny is the one that helps me so far. Tell Mother, Bob, that I will not run the Cousins down any more: they have given me a little help, anyhow.

This week I have worked 2 days & a half overtime, so I have hardly done anything to the house this week. However, it took Noah 120 years to build the Ark; & if I have goodweather I may get one room finished in 120 months. We are still living with the Botherases. Last Sunday evening we went up to Harrup's house in Kadina & saw Jenna Grose's wife, or rather his widow. She was very much surprised to see us when I told her my name. She is living with her parents. She has 2 children--a boy & a girl. On the Wednesday she came down to see us & brought her children with her. The boy, Jim, wanted to stay with us. There seems to be a large family of Harrups, so I don't think Mrs. Grose will be allowed to want for anything. One day in the week before last I was looking for a cosy place to sit & have a read & a feed, & old Jabez Dodd called me to come up in the engine house at Kurilla, the one near the blacksmiths' shop, so I went up & had dinner. In the course of conversation with him it came out that he was Jabez Dodd, the long-winded preacher. He asked me how Charley was getting on, & where he & the boys were working. We got talking about the family, & he told me

Mrs. Brickman had married a Swede named Richard Nicholls, & that they were living in old Mrs. Giles' place house. The first chance we got was last Monday to go & see them. We went over through the rain, at night, & I went in first. The first woman I saw was Emily Brickman, & I knew her by her projecting teeth. She didn't recognise me until I had made myself known, then

4.

she shook hands heartily. I introduced Jinny to her & to Ellen Hancock. Emma asked Ellen (Bill's daughter) if she knew me, & she said no, so she introduced me to Ellen. Being under the impression that Emma's Mother lived there, I asked Emma where her Mother was, & she said, "At Wallaroo". I began to fancy things were a bit queer; so I asked Emily who she married & she said "This is my husband, Dick Nicholls." It then came out that Jabez was a bit askew in his information, for it was Emily who had married Dick Nicholls, & was living in Mrs. Giles' house.

Ellen Hancock is also married. I have quite forgotten her husband's name, but I remember that she said he is a Scotchman, & that he is very good to her & the 2 children. Her husband works at Broken Hill but she is down here for 3 months holiday. That's where her husband shows his goodness-- but he's bound to be good if he's Scotch, isn't he, Jim? Ellen appears to be living with Emily. The house appeared to be full of children when we went in. Emily has six, & they are not a bad looking half a dozen, either. Ellen has developed into a fine, intelligent looking young woman. She did most of the talking, & told me that old Mrs. Giles went up to Broken Hill, & lives with Henry Vercoe & Lizzie. It was quite evident to me that Ellen does not approve of the way in which Lizzie treats her own Mother. Ellen & her husband offered to give Mrs. Giles a home & every comfort at their place, but the old woman would not leave her daughter Lizzie. Ellen told us the side of a newspaper-ful about the family & their doings & marryings. Selina Hancock, Ellen's sister, is married to a Welshman named Harry Davis, & they live near Ellen at Broken Hill. Ellen seems to think he is a bit of a fool. He sometimes tells Selina to have a holiday trip somewhere, & when she goes he sells off & goes after her.

Young Harry Brickman is married to a widow with 4 children, & they still live at Wallaroo Bay. Little Maria is married, but I have forgotten her husband's name. George Dalby's daughter Polly is married to a man named Fred Cawt or Court, & they are living in one of the Wallaroo Mines company's cottages, but he intends to put up a house in the same row as ours (Federal Row). I don't know them yet. Fred Dalby is working with the masons at the mines, here, but he lives at Wallaroo Bay. I don't think he is married. We intended to go with Ellen, Emma, & Dick in his cart, to Wallaroo Bay to-day to see the whole of Aunt Maria's family & her & George, but it is too wet & windy to go.

Dick & Emily have a horse & cart of their own, & they own old Mrs. Giles' house. They paid her four pounds for it.

So far as I can learn, the whole family are doing fairly well, & are healthy. We are also enjoying good health so far, & I hope you are all the same by this time. Croup is a dangerous thing, but if Liz-Jane keeps Lizzie's & Pearlie's feet dry & warm all the time they won't be troubled with croup again. We are glad that Bob is all right again; & we hope May is quite well

Copy of sister Liz Jane's letter:³

"Plattsburg, June 13, 1899. Dear Brother & sister, We received you kind & sympathetic letter, & were very glad to get it. I may say that at the time I received it I was going through the most bitter trial of my life. About 3 weeks before dear little Pearlle too ill I think anyone would have taken a lease of her life. She had a slight touch of the whooping cough, but that was all that ailed her. Shortly after taking the cough she became very cross & restless, & we called the doctor in on the Monday. She appeared to get no better by taking the medicine, & on the Thursday I got Doll Murray to stay with me. We stayed up until half past one on Friday morning, & as she fell asleep we thought we would take her to bed. We had just laid down with her a few minutes, & noticing that she was going to cough we sat up in bed & she went in to a fit. You may just imagine the fright I got. From that time until 2 o'clock the dear little thing had taken 6 fits. Jim had come home from work by this time, & he ran for the doctor. He came up at once & said she had the whooping cough & bronchitis. Well, from that time until the time she died there is no one but her & her Maker knows what she suffered. She was only ill 1 week & 3 days, & in that time she had 12 severe fits. The doctor & all my neighbours, including Doll Murray, did everything in their power to save her dear life, but, as you say, in spite of all our love & care & anxiety, she vanished from us. The only consolation we have is that she has gone where no sickness nor death can harm her; & we know that such purity & goodness as she was could not but be happy. You say, Joe, that crying will do no good. I know that if crying or grieving could have brought her back she would have been back long ago. Of course, as you say, Joe, we still have little Lizzie left, but if you saw how she has missed her already you would partly know how hard it is for us to bear. All we can do now is to give her over in God's hands & bear our sorrow as only a father & mother can. As for myself, I am not getting good health at all, but I don't think we can expect it. I still have a good husband & one child to love & look after; & if all is well in a few months I shall have my arms full again. So I have to try to bear up as well as possible for their sakes. Jim is in good health, but little Lizzie has whooping cough & has to be kept inside & taken great care of. So you can see that at present our path is not all strewn with roses. You say you were glad that May was acting the part of a practical Christian in the world, not professing Christi-

6.

anity, but if you had been here you would have said that if there is a practical Christian in the world, not professing Christianity, it is Doll Murray. From the time that my baby took the first fit in my arms until she passed peacefully away, that girl never left her side. She never laid in her bed nor took her clothes off for 8 nights & days. May came in to see her daily, & at the last she went & did my shopping, but past that, Joe, all her Christianity ended. Taking the 2, I think the one that took the part of a sister & friend it was Doll Murray

She has been with me ever since, but owing to the trouble & expense we are in I will have to let her go home until I am laid up. If ever Doll wants a friend or a home she will have one here with us. We shall never forget her.

We have not had time to get any memorial cards printed yet, the next letter I will send you one. I have not been down to see Mother but twice since baby took ill. When Lizzie gets better I shall be only too glad to go down to Mother again. She is very well, considering all things, & so they all are but me.

I hope you are both well, & that you will continue writing to us when you get time. You must excuse this letter, Joe, but I will write a better one when I am more composed. I will have to close now as Lizzie is calling me & I must obey. You must accept the love of all of us at present, & write soon. We remain your loving brother & sister, James & Elizabeth Jane Pettigrew.

P.S. Tell Jinny if she sees any of my cousins over there to tell them about Pearl; & if any of them writes me a letter I will answer it. Do not let Jinny dwell on what has passed, too much-- about either Bobby or Pearly, for it will not do her much good. I forgot to say that Jim's father & mother are both well, but terribly upset about baby. Little Lizzie wants her auntie to see how she can write, so in the bottom you will see a sample & hope for better things to come. Lizzie Pettigrew. She is nearly asleep, so you can't expect too good all at once. Of course we had to guide her hand to do all that. Good night both."

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY—ELECTORAL CLAIM.

District of _____

I claim to be registered on the Roll for the above District, and to vote at _____ polling-place.

- 1. I am a natural-born (~~*or naturalised~~) subject of Her Majesty.
- 2. I reside within the District.
- 3. I am not, within my knowledge, registered on the Roll of any other District.

Dated this 22nd day of September 1899.

Christian and Surname in full Mary Jane Locking

Place of Residence Wallaroo Mines

Occupation _____

(Usual Signature) M J Locking

This claim, if posted addressed to "The Registrar" of the polling-place at the address in Schedule II. to the Electoral Code, will travel post free.

N.B.—Addresses of Registrars for particular polling-places may also be seen at any Post Office.

* Strike out, as the case may be.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY—ELECTORAL CLAIM.

District of _____

I claim to be registered on the Roll for the above District, and to vote at Kadina polling-place.

1. I am a natural-born (~~*or naturalised~~) subject of Her Majesty.
2. I reside within the District.
3. I am not, within my knowledge, registered on the Roll of any other District.

Dated this 22nd day of September 1899 .

Christian and Surname in full Josiah Cocking

Place of Residence Walleron Mines,

Occupation Labourer

(Usual Signature) Josiah Cocking

This claim, if posted addressed to "The Registrar" of the polling-place at the address in Schedule II. to the Electoral Code, will travel post free.

N.B.—Addresses of Registrars for particular polling-places may also be seen at any Post Office.

* Strike out, as the case may be.

857

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9

before now. We have not had a letter from Jack & May yet. When you write again let us know how Cecil, & Willie, & Bertie, are. You never mention them.

The English letter that you sent us was one for Mother, from Aunt Grace; so I will send it back with this. We are very glad to find that the tablet for Bobby's grave arrived unbroken; & we hope you will get it fixed up as soon as you can.

Yes, Bob, Jinny did send a bad account of the place to Ada Bain, & it is not unnatural that she should, for this is not home to her, & at the very first we were in a position that made the place seem really worse than it was. However, Jinny is getting to like the place better now; & when we have a home of our own

, if ever we do, she will feel quite at home. There was only one letter that was overweight; that was the one from you, Bob, on the thick foolscap. There was 2d to pay, but as Mrs. Mitchell took it from the postman we did not pay it. I think you put far too many stamps on the papers. Try halfpenny stamps. The "Bulletin" has not arrived yet. I am sorry that Mother has a bad cold; & I hope you will all shut that back door behind you, & make her sit out of the cold draught.

I have not much space to tell you about the chaps you know. Frank Carlin is working on surface at Kurilla. Pat Carlin has been dead 4 years. Jim Henry is a carpenter in the mines. Four of his sisters died; the rest are married. Jim Henry is single, & lives with his Mother in a mines cottage. I have not been over to see the Tamblins yet. Keep believing, Bob.

Thus endeth the writing of this letter by your affectionate son & daughter, Joe & Jinny. Cocking

P.S. Tell Mary Haslam, the Italian, that we have not forgotten her, but that we cannot pay her yet. Do we put enough stamps on our letters?"

The following letter was evidently written by me in June, 1899, but the day's date is torn off the original letter:-

"Wallaroo Mines, S.A. June ? th 1899. Dear Mother, Father, Jack, Bob, Liz-Jane-, May, Liz-Jane, & Jim, We received Bob's letter of the 28th of May last Friday (& 4 papers) & were very sorry to find that poor little Pearl was so ill. I hope & trust that the poor little dear will have got over the worst of her illness before now, & that she is on the way to recovery. We are also sorry that Mother has been prevented by the cold weather from going to help Liz-Jane with Pearl. It is very good of May to help Liz-Jane like she has. It is what I call the principles of Christianity practically applied. We hope that by the time we get a reply Pearl will be all right. We are glad to find that Mother & young Lizzie are about right again; & we hope that all the rest of the family are quite well, as I am glad to tell you we are at present.

We have not only good health, but we have had a piece of good

luck inasmuch as we have found 2 real friends who have done as Jesus would probably have done to 2 homeless people such as we are. I think I told you that we visited Mrs. Jenna Grose some time ago; & that she & Jenna were very friendly with Will Trezise & his wife at Broken Hill. Well, after we had visited her, Mrs. Grose saw Will Trezise & told him all about me; so, one evening when I was building our new house he was going to Kurilla with his wife & child & he came & shook hands with me & introduced his wife. We had a long yarn about old times & things in general. He was surprised when I told him that the Botherases were charging us 5/- a week for one room, & he was vexed to find that they were mean enough to take advantage of our circumstances to charge such an abominably heavy rent, After talking awhile Will & his wife went away. I worked on, & Jinny came out to me. Will & Mrs. Trezise returned, & we all got talking about our experiances, when Will said he would let us go & live with them if he had a decent room for us; but he only had an old back room that was out of repair. I said that perhaps we could repair it; so he invited us over to have a look at it. We went with them to their house, which is near th Bible Christian Church,. They made us extremely welcome & showed us the spare room. The end wall bulged inwards & seemed ready to fall at any moment. The ceiling had partly fallen & hung in dirty tatters from the dusty rafters. But I could see that, with the expenditure of some money & labour, the room could soon be put right. I told Will what I thought of it, & we agreed to wallop in at it & get it done. They wouldn't hear of us paying any rent. Will is in charge of the Devon jiggers which work 3 shifts right around the clock. Next day he had the end wall right down, & he arranged with a mate to work a mate to work a double shift, so that he could build thw wall inside, using mud, or "pug" & the limestones of the old wall. Of course I have helped at ~~nights~~ nights & neglected our new house for the time. Johnny Martin, the blacksmith, who is a great friend of Will, also helped. We had the wall almost finished, when it collapsed & half of it fell. The pug was too wet to hold the smooth, roundish limestones, so we left it a day to dry a little. Then I built some of the wall, & Will went without his sleep to get it ready. Jack Martin came again & helped us. We bought 4 sheets of new galvanised iron & some stuff for a new ceiling, between us, & got the room built, ceiled, whitewashed, & cleaned by yesterday; & Jinny & Mrs. Trezise put our things in it. So we slept in the new room last night & found it neat & comfortable. We shifted our things from Botheras' yesterday week, & I have slept in the dining room, & Jinny slept with Mrs. Trezise, as Will is night shift. You speak of sending a box of fruit to Mrs. Botheras, Mother, but somehow you don't seem to realize that what she did for us was not an act of kindness. If she had said to me, Well, Jo

No. 01

I am glad to see you, but sorry to see you homeless & short of money. We have a spare room-- come & live with us until you can get a better place, & you need only pay for the wood you burn. Your Mother was good to me in my trouble: now I can repay her by helping you." If she had said that, or words to that effect it would be worthy of a box of fruit. Instead of which she said, "You can have wan room for five shellun a week, but there edden much waater. Ef it doan't come rain soon we shal face carry waater & you must pay for haaf ob um."

If you wish to send anyone a present, Mother, let it be Mr. & Mrs. Trezise whose conduct, as far as we are concerned, has been that of real Christians, & yet they don't profess to be religious like a good many, including Mrs. Botheras. Of all the so-called Christians of this place there is only one--Tom Bawden-- who has helped us yet. If you want to find Christianity you must go outside of the church to find it, as the book, "In His Steps" plainly shows. That book is a complete exposure of the infidelity of ~~churchmen generally~~ churchmen generally. I have just finished reading it, & Jinny has just started to read it. I intended to send a copy of the book to Mother for Liz-Jane or Bob to read to her; but, as Bob mentioned it, I suppose Mother has already heard it. My opinion of the book is summed up in this sentence:- "The events mentioned in "In His Steps" are of too democratic a nature to ever be the outcome of opinions held by the average ~~parson person xxx in short, the whole story is xxxxx~~ Christians who have their thinking done by others at so much per week. The events are too revolutionary to be the result of the practical application of principles held by the average parson person. In short, the whole story is too good to be true, therefore it is a lie, &, like a good many other lies, it was written by a parson.

Last Sunday evening Jinny & I went with Emily Brickman (or rather Emily Nicholls), Dick Nicholls (her husband), Ellen Hancock that was, (now Ellen Mowbray) & their children, in Dick's spring cart, to Port Wallaroo. It was nearly dark when we arrived at a house, near May's foundry, where Maria Brickman lives. We all got out & Maria came out & shook hands with us. We went inside & had tea-- a nice tea, too. She has not altered much in the 13 years since we left Kadina. The family have all become men & women, & all but 2 are married. Aunt Maria goes out nursing now, & gets plenty of work. But George Dalby has not got regular work. Aunt Maria's house looks pretty bare. She asked all about her brother Charley & Mother, & about Jack, Bob, Liz-Jane. I gave her full particulars & got her promise to write to Mother & left the proper address for that purpose. So by this time you may have had a letter from her, giving fuller details, of the changes that have taken place in her family, than I can give. We went from there to young Maria's place, near her Mother's. Ri, as they call her, did not know me at first, but soon recognised me. I would not have known her. She has grown to what Jack

would call "along streak of misery". She is married to a man named Albert Allen, who used to lodge with Bill & Janey Hancock. I forget how many children they have. Her husband knew all of us he said, but I didn't know him. He seems a good sort. Young Maria & 's house is not fully furnished in the kitchen, but in the other rooms it is furnished very well. I think Allen works at the Wallaroo smelting works. At the same time as we saw Maria we saw Nelly Giles, who is down from Broken Hill on a holiday for the good of her health. She married Walter Terrell, brother of Sam Terrell, who married her sister Mary. I would not have known Nelly. She has had 4 children & buried 2; so she has had a lot of trouble, & her face & body show it, for she is as thin & miserable as young Maria. From Maria's house we went to young Harry Brickman's & saw him, but his wife would not be seen! (The concluding portion of this letter is lost.).

Copy of my letter to Mother;-

"Wallaroo Mines, S.A. Aug. 27, 1899.

Dear Mother, Father, Sister, Brothers, Ethel, May, & Jim. Your letter of the 17th inst. came safely to hand, & we were very glad to find that all of you, except Liz-Jane, were quite well. I daresay that the loss of poor little Pearl preys on Liz-Jane's mind a great deal, & it is almost impossible to have a healthy body with an unsettled, miserable mind. I hope she will keep her thoughts off her great trouble as much as she can, or she will soon make herself seriously ill. This is Sunday, & this morning Jinny & I walked out to old Durea mine to have a look around. It was all new to Jinny, but it looks pretty much the same to me as it used to be. I notice that some of the houses have been pulled down, & the paddock where old captain Anthony used to grow clover is allowed to grow anything or nothing, & the fences all about the place seem too old & rotten to stand much longer. Everything about Durea seems to be badly neglected. One cheering thing about the old place is the carpet of daisies all over the ground. We picked a few to send over, but I suppose all the bloom will be off long before they reach you. We also picked off some wattle blossoms to send in the letter to remind you of old time. We can't afford to pack them in ice to keep them fresh, like a lady who had more money than sense did with a bouquet that she sent to the queen. However if our blossoms are ~~not a nice~~ not an ice present, nor a nice present, they will be welcome to you, I know.

Excuse me, Mother, for mentioning your friend, the queen-- bless her little tootsey-wootseys! You see I am a Republican & can't help it. But I must leave such trifling subjects as kings & queens & speak of the much more important matter of the marriage of Ethel & Bob. We have scarcely got over our sur-

13

prise yet. We first hear that you, Mother, & Ethel are chummy; then that Bob & Ethel are much chummier, then that they are chums for life. This licks me! I fully expected a long, interesting, detailed account of how it all happened, & how matters developed so quickly, but, although Ethel wrote the last letter & Bob wrote the one before, neither made more than the barest mention of it. It is not too late now, though. And while I think of it, Ethel, Jinny wants to know what you think of the Maitland show now? We hope & trust that you are all happy & comfortable together, as we are. I think that Liz-jane & Jim would be wise to buy a house instead of paying away the price of one in rent, & still have to shift about from place to place. There are no points in it, as they say here. Talking about houses reminds me that our one-roomed mansion is not finished, but it is up 9 boards high. I intend to put it up 3 boards higher yet, so that the height will be 9 feet. We are building the chimney as we go, with bricks & stone. I say we are building it, for Jinny comes out in the evenings & tends me with stones & mortar; & a good mason's labourer she is! At the same time the noble Cousins will ride by to the Lord's ground & play lawn tennis, or cricket, or football, & let her do the work. At other times they go to church & vex the Almighty with their abominable hypocrisy! We are pleased that Jim is getting on so well with Froome; it is far better than being in the pit. You wish me to be careful, Mother, & not write anything that hurts your feelings. If I have hurt you by anything that I have said I am sorry for it. I thought that you knew me too well to think that I would deliberately write nasty remarks to hurt your feelings. I didn't mean to say one word to jar you. Sometimes I might say something nasty about the ruling class & titled social parasites that feed & fatten on the poor; but you don't belong to that class, Mother, & I hope you will never get down so low.

When I speak disrespectfully of any class or person I do it because it or he is not worthy of respect. But for you, Mother, to feel offended about what I say about people who are thousands of miles away & who don't know nor care whether you live or die, is curious. I am very glad to find, Mother, that you are feeling better than usual. You did not say anything the remedies for rheumatism that I told you of in the last letter. I think that Ethel is worthy of a hearty vote of thanks from all the family for her kindness to you; & in return for her willing attendance you should think twice before you speak once if you begin to feel the skin of your head get tight. Charley is also worthy of what he got-- & more too-- for his seven weeks work at home besides his slavery in the pit for Barr. I am glad, too, to see that the garden is all in bloom. It's a blooming good garden now, I suppose. I will send the "Plain Dealer" with this letter." (The end of this letter is lost).

When we received the telegram mentioned on page one I had been out of work several months, having been discharged, with 39 other miners, by James Barr, the manager of the Co-operative colliery, for forming a union there. Mum & I had recently lost dear little Bobby, our baby, & were in poverty & distress of mind. Soon after the telegram arrived we sold our house to Mat Bailey for eight pounds, & sold our furniture to others. We packed 2 large cases with bedding, clothing, books, & kitchen requisites, ~~cameras, etc.~~ &c. The cases cost 2 shillings & 6 pence each. We paid Phil Hefner 1/6 for carting the boxes to the Wallsend railway station to be taken to Newcastle to be put on board the steamer "Namoi". The freight for taking them to Sydney was 7/-. We paid 5/- for 2 steerage tickets to Sydney by the Namoi, & left Newcastle on the 27th of March, 1899. We went by train to Lithgow & visited Jack & Kate Reed & the Weston family. We stayed at Lithgow a day or 2 & then returned to Sydney & went on board of the "Bothwell Castle" & were shown our berths in the steerage. We left the Bothwell Castle at Port Adelaide & went by train to Wallaroo Mines, where I soon got work with the carpenters, & was put with Nat Thoday to cut out shaft & other underground timber. We first stayed at Mitchell's boarding house in Graves street, Kadina, & then engaged a room at John Botheras' house at Wallaroo Mines. We next shifted to a room in Will Trezise's house, Wallaroo Mines, & stayed there until we had one room of our cottage built in Federal Row. While we were living with the Trezises our second son, Josiah Thomas was born at their house on Sunday, Sep. 3rd, 1899. In June, 1900, we left Wallaroo Mines & arrived at Wallsend, by train from Kadina, on the night of Friday June 15, 1901.

The first 4 pages of the following letter were lost:-

It was written at Wallaroo Mines, probably in Sep. 1899.:-

" weather for the show-- plenty of wind & dust. I hear, how ever, that there were a great many people there. When we came here I was talking to a chap named Ernie Rose about a book of Cornish tales, & he promised to buy one in Moonta for me I forgot all about it until a few days ago, when he called me as I was going by the Devon buddles where he works. He told me he had got the Cousin Jack book; so I took it & promised to pay him. Next day I paid him 1/9 for it. It is one of the funniest books I have read. I read it last Sunday evening to Will & Mrs. Trezise, & they enjoyed it immensely. I have lent it to Nat Thoday for a fortnight. If you would like to have the book I will send it over to you. It is called "Tregellas' Cornish Tales". If you can get anyone that understands the Cornish dialect to read the tales I know you will enjoy them very much. I will not send it unless you ask for it, for you may think I want to poke fun at the Cousin Jacks, which I don't. Let me know when you write next time

15

& if you want it I'll post it to you at once. The Kadina Democratic Club has invited the premier of South Australia, the right honourable Charles C. Kingston, to come & give a lecture under the auspices of the club. So he has consented to lecture at the Kadina Institute next Friday night, on "Current Topics". I would very much like to hear him, but I have hardly made up my mind to leave the house, for I wish to get it built as soon as possible. Of course we are made welcome here in Will Trezise's house, but at the same time I don't wish to take an undue advantage of their hospitality.

We have not yet got the pictures of Lithgow, for when we went for them last pay night they were not done, & I have not been up to the photographer's shop since. We don't go up to Kadina very often-- in fact we don't go out anywhere much. I am thinking that when the house is finished I will attend the School of Mines classes at Moonta. The school fees are very light; & even for the lessons on the most important subjects the cost is only a pound a quarter. I intend, if possible, to take lessons on Assaying & Practical Chemistry. That is what I have often wished to learn, but until now I have not had a good chance to study these subjects. If I could get a certificate of proficiency in the art of assaying, from the School of Mines, I would have a chance to get a billet at some mine as assayer, & would get far more than 5/6 a day.

I have addressed the letter to you, Mother, but what I have written is also for the rest of the family. I hope that you & all the others are quite well, as I am glad to say we all are at present. I hope Bob & Ethel are getting along all right, & that the others are doing well. I send you the "Plain Dealer" every week; so, as this is a shorter letter than usual, what I don't tell you here you may gather from the papers.

Ask Bob to get that book from Bill Dunn for me; & "The Age of Reason" from the man that sells the "Bible Echo".

Hoping that you are all in A 1 condition financially & physically, I am Yours affectionately, Josiah Cocking."

The following is a portion of a letter that I sent to Mother from Wallaroo Mines. The date is lost, but it was probably May or June, 1899.

" We got a letter from May yesterday. Tell her Jinny will reply when she can. We are getting the papers all right, but so far not a single copy of Holland's paper has come from you. I would like to get them. In fact, if you wont send them over I'll send to Harry Holland for them. I think I told you about us writing to the Sydney Memorial Card Company for a dozen copies of Bobby's memorial cards. Well, we got a dozen sent, but instead of printing 1898 as the year of his death they put 1899 so I wrote away again & told them of the blunder; but so far we have not received any answer from them. I suppose now that

we shall have to send to Adelaide to get a dozen printed. You didn't say anything of Bobby's grave. Don't any of you go to it now that we can't take care of it? You say, Mother, that I don't say anything about seeing you any more. Well, you & the rest of the family are seldom out of my mind when I am alone, & it would make me very miserable indeed if I thought I should not see you again. I shall have a hard try to return next Easter time when fares are cheap. Of course we have a lot of expense here. There is furniture to buy & building material to pay for. Yesterday was our pay day & I had a pound stopped out of my pay, & the pay before this there were ten shillings kept off. Then there are the 6/- a month kept off for doctor & club, & twopence for the reading room. The room that we are in now will cost fully 15 pounds altogether, which will be kept off at the rate of one pound per month. There will probably be more expense; so you see we have plenty to do with our bit of money. There have lately been a good many men discharged from the mine floors for want of work for them to do. I am kept on yet, but of course I don't know how long they will keep me. It is hardly likely that they will sack me while I work hard & owe them money. I wouldn't anyone to come here, though: things are unsettled. Every effort is being made to save labour & expense at the mines, & it is quite likely that in the near future the labor-saving machinery in various forms will send more hard working fools to some other place to look for new masters. Meanwhile the workers are watching the football while the machine owners are stealing their bread & butter. But this is Socialistic talk, so I must stop. Hurran for the Wallaroos! They won the "metal" (medal) on Saturday, & Harry Brickman was at Moonta to see the match. All the Toysnwork on the floors here. Next pay day I will very likely get a big photograph of Taylor's shaft top & the floors & if so I will send it to you with a full description of the surface works there. I get a great number of papers, Bob, so I think I must get all you send. We got none with your last letter, but just before we received the letter we got seven papers. We have not been to the post office since we received your letter, so there may be a bundle of papers there now. The daisies are not up yet. When the time comes for them I'll send over some nice paper daisies. Yes, we got May's letter, & Jinny replied to it. I would like to see that book you mention, Bob, if you can send it over. Of course I don't have much time to read, but I'll try to find time somehow. I got a letter from Hugh de Largie about a fortnight ago, & answered it last Sunday. He is doing pretty well over at Kalgoorlie, & is enjoying good health. Unfortunately he has become a Federationist. You asked me how I like the "Truth". Well, it is not bad; but the "People-Collectivist" would be very much more welcome to me. When we get properly on our feet I will begin to

take it regularly again. In the meantime, Bob, can't you send over a copy of it weekly instead of the "Truth" ? We have not sent a letter to doctor Nash nor to Mr. Millar of Newcastle yet. If they inquire about us you can tell them that when we left Wallsend we didn't leave our consciences & principles there; & that we are waiting until we can send them something. Tell Mary Haslam, the Italian, the same. When you write let us know whether you have told them. Another thing that I want you to do, Bob, is to see old Bill Du Dunn who used to work with me on the canal at Wallsend, & get the book entitled "The Dogs & The Fleas", that I lent him, & send it over to me. I also wish you to see that 7th Day Adventist who used to come to our place & Jack's, & ask him to return "The Age Of Reason" that I lent him; & see that you get it. We have not got a sewing machine yet. Jinny does all her sewing on Mrs. Trezise's machine, & is becoming very handy with needle & scissors. She has made me a pair of trousers & 2 check shirts, 2 pairs of drawers, & a flannel; & she has made a wrapper for herself. We never go to see the Mathews' lately, & they don't come to see us. We don't go out much, for Sundays are the only days we have; & even then I'm too busy reading or writing. I have signed an agreement in the mines office to pay five pounds for the building material that I have had so far. It will be kept out of my pay at the rate of one pound per month. I must now get ready for chapel, so I will conclude for the present. We remain your loving son & daughter, Josiah & M. Jane Cocking. Kiss the baby & Ethel for Jinny, Bob. B good."

Copy of my diary written in shorthand at Wallaroo Mines:-
 "Sat. Aug. 5, 1899. I helped Nat Thoday to cut out a mallee timber & part of a 3 legged set. I finished filling the board at the new house this evening. Jinny was out with me.

Sun. Aug. 6, 1899. I wrote a letter to the Memorial Card Co. Sydney, for a dozen more cards. I also wrote to Mother & sent her the photo of Taylor's, Duncan's, & Elders' shafts. I finished reading the Report of the Labour Congress in West Aus. sent by Hugh de Largie. I read a lecture on "The Birds of the Globe". Some Mrs. Tippet was here was here from Adelaide. Charlie Trembath was buried to-day. Raining.

Mon. Aug. 7, 1899. I am with Nat Thoday again, cutting out round timber. I worked a bit at the new house. Jinny came out. A slight shower fell this morning.

Tues. Aug. 8, 1899. I worked again with Nat Thoday about the logs. Worked a little at building the house. Cold, rainy weather

18.

Wed. Aug. 9, 1899. I am with Thoday working at a 3 legged set. I went out in the evening & did a bit at the new house. Joe Phillips helped me to put up the boards on the window side. Weather dry at night.

Thur. Aug. 10, 1899. Thoday & I were working at the round timber. This is mallee day. The book "Twelve Lectures, or Christendom Astray", by R. Roberts, has not come from Fred Baker yet. There was a meeting of the Democratic Club, but I had no time to attend. I filled the boards on the window side of the house.

Sat. Aug. 12, 1899. With Thoday at round timber. In the afternoon I worked at the house with Will Trezise, & we finished filling the 8th board on the bedroom side. Fine weather.

Sun. Aug. 13, 1899. I read 2 copies of the Herald, & wrote a letter to Fred Baker, & one to Jack Reed. I wrapped up the rapeseeds & addressed them to Bob. Miss Commandant Booth is at Kadina to-day.

Mon. Aug. 14, 1899. With Thoday at the logs. Received a letter from home. Fine weather.

Tues. 15th Aug., 1899. As there were no orders for timber, Na Thoday & I helped Jim Henry & Fred Garland to get an old hut out of the Devon jiggers. I went out to the new house & built a little. Fine weather.

Wed. Aug. 16, 1899. I am with Thoday cutting out a set of 15 inch timber with 3 legs. Warm weather.

Thur. Aug. 17, 1899. Helped Thoday to cut out a 3 legged set. Jinny came out in the evening & helped me to build the house

Fri. Aug. 18, 1899. Nat & I cut out a set of timber, & finished the set that was started by Frank Moroney yesterday. I built a bit more in the 9th board this evening.

Sat. Aug. 19, 1899. Thoday & I cut out three-inch pieces this morning, & then went to the log yard & cut out a level set. Windy weather.

Sun. Aug. 20, 1899. This morning I went out with Will Trezise to the new shaft that is being sunk near the Alford road. We went along the line of lode to the old Kadina mine & on to the Wandilta & Cornwall mines. I did not write anything to-day. Windy weather.

19.

Mon. Aug. 21, 1899. Nat Thoday & I worked at the logs, & afterwards we cut out 3 end sets for Office shaft. I built a bit at the house this evening.

Tues. Aug. 22, 1899. Worked with Thoday about the logs. Very windy weather.

Wed. Aug. 23, 1899. As there were no orders for timber to be cut, we were not at the logs. I was in the carpenters' shop helping Sam Trethewey to bore & plane planks.

Thur. Aug. 24, 1899. Thoday & I were cutting out big timber. In the evening I went out to the new house, & Jinny brought out a letter from brother Bob & one from Jack Reed. Rainy.

Fri. Aug. 25, 1899. With Thoday cutting out round timber. I worked a little at the house to-night.

Sat. Aug. 26, 1899. Cutting round logs with Nat. We were all paid to-day. My pay was five pounds, six shillings, & five pence, after there was a pound kept out as part payment for building material for the new house. Jinny & I worked at the new house until about dark, & then she went up to Kadina before me, & I could not find her there. I bought a dozen pencils at Burden's shop for 1/-. I could not find Jinny, & she could not find me. Dry weather.

Sun. Aug. 27, 1899. I wrote a 12 page letter to Mother, & began one to Hugh de Largie, who is in West Australia. Jinny & I walked out to the old Dora mine & had a look around.

Mon. Aug. 28, 1899. Thoday & I began again at the logs to-day. Will Trezise & his wife came out to the house to me & Jinny, & Will helped me to partly fill a board. I asked for the holding-down bolts for my walls to-day. Fine weather.

Tues. Aug. 29, 1899. I was with Thoday again to-day. We have 5 orders for timber, & we have a copy of the "Adelaide Chronicle" being brought to the mines by farmers for fuel. Dry weather.

Wed. Aug. 29, 1899. I was with Thoday to-day, working at the logs. This evening Will Trezise came out & helped me to build on the 10th board on the West side. Hot weather.

Wed. Aug. 30, 1899. With Thoday at the logs. We have 5 or 6 orders in for timber. Nat gave me a copy of the "Adelaide Chronicle". A lot of stumps are being brought to the mines by farmers for fuel. Dry weather.

Thur. Aug. 31, 1899. I was with Nat working at the logs. After 5 o'clock when we left work, I went out to the new house & built a little. Fine weather.

Fri. Sep. 1, 1899. This is a public holiday, it being Eight Hours Day. I got up at 6 o'clock, had breakfast, & went out to the house. I filled the 10th board on the south side, & the 11th on the East side, & began the boards on the chimney. Jinny came out with dinner & stayed until night time. Will Trezise & Jack Martin went out to Greens Plains to shoot rabbits. Lovely weather.

Sat. Sep. 2, 1899. Frank Moroney & a mate, & Nat Thoday & I were all cutting out timber to-day. In the evening I filled a board on the chimney of the new house, & fixed the adjuster for the next board. Alf Brokenshire & Ernie John came to the house on their way home, & Alf promised to help to put the roof on for me. We got a letter to-day from Ada Bain (nee Lewis). Fine weather.

Sun. Sep. 3, 1899. Jinny was taken ill at 7 o'clock this morning, & I went over to Mrs. Woodward, the midwife, about 9 o'clock, & she came over & attended to Jinny. The baby was born at 9-50 a.m. I went over to engage Lily Mutton, a daughter of Harry Mutton who worked in Taylor's stope, & had Billy Moore & his father as mates with me. That was when I was a boy. I interviewed & engaged Lily, & then went to Dick Nicholls' house & met Emily Nicholls (nee Brickman). Lily came to Trezise's house at 1-10 a.m. The baby is a fine, healthy boy. He is nothing like dear Bobby. I wrote a short letter to Jack Reed & sent a postal note for 5/-. I wrote a letter to Harry Holland this evening, & wrote a 12 page letter to Hugh de Largie this morning. Fine day.

Mon. Sep. 4, 1899. I am at the logs again with Nat Thoday. Frank Moroney & his mate are not with us to-day. I went up to Kadina & had my hair cut, for 9d, this evening. I bought a copy of the Adelaide Chronicle supplement at Frith's for 6d. I paid him 1/- for the "Weekly Herald", for a quarter, in advance.

Tues. Sep. 5, 1899. With Thoday cutting out logs. I went out to the house & built a bit in the 11th board on the chimney side. Jinny & the baby are all right yet. The baby has tongue-tie, so the doctor has cut the cord. Jim Makinnon went to Broken Hill last week. Mrs. Woodward has left Jinny again to nurse another. Very dry weather.

Wed. Sep. 6, 1899. Nat & I worked at the logs with Thoday. After 5 p.m. (when the day's work ended) I went out to the house & built a bit more in the 11th board on the chimney side.

Newcastle Lady ^{21.}

TELLS A TERRIBLE STORY OF LONG

SUFFERING *Sept. 14th 1899.*

And a Radical Cure.

OF
RALI
THE
OF

The Case of Mrs. ELIZABETH GILES.

(Reported for the "Sun.")

IC "I am sure you will not find a more
IT remarkable case of sickness, recovery and
F cure than mine in all your travels," said
IN Mrs. Elizabeth Giles, of Devon Street,
RL Plattsburg, when she was seen by our
IU reporter; and after hearing a statement of
S her case he was much inclined to share
ON that outspoken opinion.
FROM "I am not a young girl, as you can see,"
TH said Mrs. Giles, alluding to her own portly
AF form. "I am Cornish bred and born, but
I have been a great many years in this
country. I am the mother of four, now
grown up and settled in life, and until a few
years ago I did not know what it was to
have a day's sickness; then, prompted by
the demon of misfortune, we went to live in
a newly built brick house near the end of
the tram line and took it for twelve months.
This house was damp, the walls streamed,
even our beds were damp. The result was
I contracted a severe attack of rheumatic
gout, and thus arose all my troubles. For
when I was better of the rheumatism, it
was only to find myself a martyr to kidney
disease, heart weakness, and dropsy; also
indigestion in its severest form. Gradually
the water began to accumulate in my body;
my limbs became the size of pillows—and
large pillows at that—my circumference was
vast. Continually my dresses had to be
made bigger and bigger; finally, I could
have filled a small room. Of course, I was
perfectly helpless, and could not dress
myself or bend my unwieldy body. My
skin became the colour of an orange, and all
round my eyes was as black as a man's hat.
My appearance was something awful, and
when I looked at myself in the mirror I
cried. For I could not look at my present-
ment and think for a moment there was any
hope; and more than once I told my boys
they would soon have to leave me in the
churchyard. During the four years that I
was drifting into this awful state I never
wore boots or stockings, it was simply out
of the question to have got sizes to fit me."
"What were your other symptoms, Mrs.
Giles?" asked the reporter.

"I had a terrible cough that racked and
shook me and made my sides ache and
weary with coughing. My heart would beat
quite audibly, so that it could be heard like
the tick, tick, tick, of an old Dutch clock.
And when I had my spasms of wind, my
heart, or the place above it, would swell up
the size of a billy-can. I think it was
indigestion caused this wind; I could eat
nothing that would agree with me; even
dry bread, upon which at last I entirely
lived—if you can call that living, in which
all the day and the longer night was a
weariness and despair. I had always been
of a bilious temperament, even as a child,
and now my nerves were all of a tremble.
I could not sleep at all—sweet rest seemed
to have abandoned me for ever. I would sit
by the bedside two hours at a time bringing
up wind and the everlasting gas that bred
in my stomach. There I would be help-
less and straining till I got black in the
face. Then there were cramping pains in the
legs and toes, and my skin would itch with
an irritation that was maddening. I had
that pain across the loins called the kidney
pain, and it darted into me like a knife.
And with all this, or because of all this, I
had no strength in my back and legs; I was
quite limp and weak as a little child. At
the last I was eleven weeks helpless in bed
and motionless as a log. I myself and
all who knew me made sure my last hours
were close at hand."

"What treatment did you try, Mrs. Giles;
for, of course, treatment was tried?"

"That is quite true; for four years I was
under medical care at home and at the
hospital. I am sure they gave me the
benefit of all the skill and kindness within
their power; but mine was a case, as their
four years of ill success proved, clearly
beyond the bounds of medical help—one that
called for some remedy not known in the
pharmacy of the faculty. I had come to
that pass, and to that place that might be
called the stepping-stone to the grave, when
I was visited by one of our church members
—Mr. Hooper—who said:—'Mrs. Giles, I
have come to see you to tell you of a
medicine that has saved my life—the very
best medicine in the world, I do believe.'
And then he told me all about his rescue

ER AT
OMATOES

from sickness, and the name of the remedy that had done this thing was Clements Tonic. Buoyed with a new hope, as a drowning man will catch at a straw, I sent for a bottle of Clements Tonic and began taking it."

"And what was the result?" enquired the deeply interested reporter.

"Why, after only taking one bottle I could get about, and crossing the room I noticed a pin on the floor; I stooped and picked it up—a thing I had not done for four years. This greatly pleased my boys, who saw me do it."

"See if you can pick up a dozen three-penny bits, mother?" they said, throwing some of the coins on the floor. "I did manage to pick up two, and we were all so pleased, for I never thought to be able to bend like that again. After that I continued to get steadily better and better. I lost my trembling nervousness, I was able to eat all kinds of food, and the dreadful wind that generated in my stomach was subdued. Now I could eat fried or roast, baked or boiled. The clock-like ticking of the heart ceased, and I no longer puffed out in a huge lump with wind. My cough went and the pain in the loins, and I could sleep o' nights; but greatest blessing of all, my huge girth began to contract. I was soon quite lost in my clothes, they were all too big for me. My change in every way was simply wonderful. My boys rejoiced at my appearance, never failing, without my telling, to see me supplied with Clements Tonic."

"I should like to make your great recovery known to the world, Mrs. Giles."

"You may publish it how you like, and you may add that I am a living proof of the virtues of Clements Tonic."

STATUTORY DECLARATION.

I, ELIZABETH GILES, of Devon-street, Plattsburg, Newcastle, in the Colony of New South Wales, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have carefully read the annexed document, consisting of four folios, and consecutively numbered from one to four, and that it contains and is a true and faithful account of my illness and cure by Clements Tonic, and also contains my full permission to publish the same in any way; and I make this solemn declaration voluntarily and without receiving any payment, conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act made and passed in the ninth year of the reign of her present Majesty, intituled

"An Act for the more effectual abolition of Oaths and Affirmations taken and made in the various Departments of the Government of New South Wales, and to substitute Declarations in lieu thereof, and for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial Oaths and Affidavits."

Elizabeth Giles.

Declared at Plattsburg, this 14th day of September, one thousand eight hundred and ninety nine, before me
THOMAS ABEL, J.P.

NOTE.—Imitators only imitate our name and advertisements, they cannot imitate the virtues and properties of . . .

CLEMENTS C.

SOCIALIST Labor Party—Senatorial Candidate, Mr. J. O. Moroney, will address the electors at Minnie Wild's Hall, To-Night (Wednesday), at 7 p.m.; Walls-end, Howard's balcony, on Thursday, March 28th, at 7 p.m. Friends and foes of socialism invited. J. Cocking, Sec. 1901.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

By Pat O'Grady, Esq.
TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—As the correspondents to the *daily* say, "can you or any of your readers inform me" where we are, or where are we making for, what is our ultimate goal? Household suffrage is a good thing, so is adult suffrage, but when we have given ourselves the latter very desirable reform, what then? Free trade and protection have both been tried in turn and found wanting; besides the governing classes encourage us to form protectionist leagues and free-trade associations, so that can't be the way out. Experience teaches us that they will never assist us to bring about any real reform. How about bimetalism? Oh, yes, they will assist us to thresh that out, too. "It won't touch us," they say, "and will keep their minds occupied for a bit longer." Single tax? "H'm, was a bit scared at it at first," say the said G.C., "but it's all right. That will never catch on; besides it helps us," say they, "by making faces at the Labor Party, our common enemy." No use, sir. We must be better organised, not only in the city but also in the country. We must be not only organised, but must see what we are driving at. In the first place any movement must have a solid bottom before it can succeed; further, it is a sure indication that you are on the right track when the capitalistic class is opposed to you. Socialism, practical socialism, makes them bite, a sure sign that it will help us out. At present we are making very little headway, simply by doing a little patching here and there. Patching will not do. What we want is a new rig out. Then let us start with the boots—a good foundation, nor be content till we get to the summit—the hat. The old things can be thrown away as we get the new. See to it, you city Socialists; there are scores in the country who will gladly follow.

I am, Sir, &c.,

1900.

ALLY KHAN.



RASPBERRY
be more delicious?

p. 23.

Jinny & the baby are all right so far. He will suck well now. Lily Mutton is with us still. Dry, cloudy weather.

Thur. Sep. 7, 1899. Nat & I worked together. I built a little this evening.

Fri. Sep. 8, 1899. I was with Nat cutting big timber again. This evening I went out & built in the 11th board on the chimney but did not fill it.

Sat. Sep. 9, 1899. Frank Moroney & his mate helped Nat & me to cut out some big sets. After 5 p.m. I went out & finished filling the 11th board on the chimney side & fixed the board on the West side for the 11th course. Jinny & baby are both well. Rain this morning.

Sun. Sep. 10, 1899. I went up to Frick's this morning to get the "Herald" from him, but he was not there. I wrote a letter to Mrs. Tyler, & one to Mrs. Jack Mills. At 6 p.m. I went to Frick's again & bought 1/- worth of stamps & paid 6d for the supplement of the Adelaide Chronicle. I posted the 2 letters. More rain.

Mon. Sep. 11, 1899. Began work again with Thoday. We are cutting out 3-legged sets of 15 inch round timber. Cloudy & dry.

Tues. Sep. 12, 1899. Worked again with Thoday. I went out to our new house after 5 p.m. & shifted the boards & things on to the South side, where I partly filled a board. Rain began to fall at 8 p.m., so I came home. Jinny finished her 9 days in bed, & got up.

Wed. Sep. 13, 1899. My mate, Thoday, were cutting out sets of big round timber again. Pat O'Grady gave me a bit of the "Advertiser" this morning. It reports a speech made by treasurer Holder at Gawler. I went out to the house this evening & built a bit more in the 11th board on the bedroom side. Jack Griffiths & his wife who live in the top house in Federal row, assisted me to-night. They seem very sociable people. Jinny & baby are quite well still. I had a load of stones brought to-day.

Thur. Sep. 14, 1899. Nat & I were cutting out securing sets of mallee timber to-day. We cut out 4 sets of mallee & began a $\frac{1}{2}$ set. In the evening I went to the new house & filled the 11th board on the bedroom side, & began to fill the 11th on the front side. Lovely weather.

Fri. Sep. 15, 1899. This morning Nat & I finished the half set, & then cut out a small set of mallee for Jim Bennetts. We went into the carpenters' shop & sharpened our tools, & then

18. 24.

went over with a lot of launders to the Devon mine. We received a letter from Mother to-day. Fine, but rain likely.

Sat. Sep. 16, 1899. After "knock off" time (1 p.m.) I went out to the new house, & Will Trezise came out too, & we finished the wall on the South side, & partly filled the 12th board on the west side. Tom Barratt & his father & brother put on the roof of his house. He is next door to us on the Northern side. Alf Brokenshire promised to put my roof on for me, but he was sent by the Company to Cobar to supervise the erection of Hancock's jiggers for the Chesney mine Company. Albert Hodges, the swearing local preacher, is in Alf's place. I was with Frank Moroney to-day. We had some work on big, long pieces of Oregon timber.

Sun. Sep. 17, 1899. I wrote 3 letters to-day-- one to Dave Watkins, 1 to May & Jack. & the other to someone else. Jinny & the baby are all right. Fine weather.

I wrote the following letter to those at home:-

Wallaroo Mines, South Aus. Sun. Sep. 17th, 1899.

Dear Mother, Father, Sister, Brothers, May, Jim, & Ethel, This is a rather long & difficult introduction sentence, & yet it would not do to leave either of you out, for let it be an instruction unto the musicians, & unto all of you, that on the third day of the ninth month of the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred, ninety & nine, there was born unto Jinny & Joe, of the tribe of Cocking, a son; and they called his name Josiah Thomas Cocking, that being the name of his Father & of his Mother's Father. And both the Mother & Son are doing well, considering all things. Peradventure if you read the paper called "The People & Collectivist", which is published at Newcastle by a Henry of the tribe of Holland, a Philistine, whose hand is against everyone that oppreseth the poor, & whose cornucopian pen gives wisdom to those that dwell in political, social, & economic darkness, you will see it under the title of Births, in the issue of the 10th or 16th of this month.

To my well beloved Sister, Elizabeth Jane; Greeting! Peace be unto thee! May thy shadow never grow less! You & Jinny remind me of a story I heard of a preacher who attended an anniversary of a church at Yacka. The church was crowded & babies were more than usually plentiful, so much so that the preacher was just a trifle annoyed; so he said, with a nasal tone, "They say that the people of Yacka are not characterised by much go-aheadism, but they seem to have plenty of babies, anyhow!". We are glad to find that you are all in good health, & we hope you will continue so. You say, Mother, that Liz-Jane's baby is like it's mother when she was a baby. I remember pretty well what she was like-- as fair as Moses when his candle went out; & I remember that Jack used to carry her about in a blanket.

Speaking of those old times reminds me of old Tom & Mrs. Smith. I hear they are still living in the same old house at Wallaroo, & that they are chiefly supported by government rations & a few fishes that old Tom catches off the jetty. I will go down & see them the first chance I get. I know that poor old Mrs. Smith will be glad to see me & to hear all about all of you. I will let you know about it when I go down & see them. We have not been able to go down to the "Poort" more than once yet, but we shall go the first chance we get. The worst of it is that if people wish to travel on Sundays here they have to hire a horse & cart, or buggy, for there is no tram, train, nor bus running here on Sundays.

Our baby is very much like me; his hair grows well down by his ears in front, & it grows anyhow all over his head. He has eye-brows like Jinny, & his nose is like hers, but his chin & cheeks are wide, like mine. His forehead is not a grand one like dear Bobby's was, but it is not too small. His mouth is plenty wide enough, & his lips are thicker than Bobby's. His eyes are dark blue, & his hair is light brown with just a tinge of red. He is always quiet & contented when he has had his fill at the breast. Jinny & Mrs. Trezise had hard work to make the baby suck, but they kept at it until they got him fairly started, & then it was hard to make him let go. Jinny is as proud as a puss of her son, & I'm as proud as a whole yardful of them. We do hope this dear little chap comes on all right. Jinny thinks that if she had been helped to hold Bobby to her breast he would have taken it as well as this lad does. Everything seems to go in our favour here, except having to build by night. We have good health & a few good friends, regular work for me, & so far, a fine, fat, healthy, good-tempered baby. When we were at Wallsend it was the other way about. I am glad to find, Mother, that you have at last acknowledged that you have not acted right to Jinny in the past. She was just as much an orphan as she is now, & just as much in need of sympathy & friendship. It is a great pity that it took a long sea voyage to make you feel the full force of the fact that Jinny was almost entirely "on her own", as they say. You have been thinking about us ever since we went away, & we have been thinking about all of you. But, much as I would like to go back to you again, I don't think it would be wise for us to leave a place where Jinny enjoys peace of mind, & where we can pay for the food we eat, instead of being paupers & beggars on the family & the storekeeper. You say there is plenty of work there; well, so there was when I left, but none for me. I intend to go back again, but would like to feather my nest, so to speak, before going back again. We would like to pay our debts over there before we go back again, & throw ourselves on the mercy of the family & the storekeepers. We are all right here for a time, until we can manage to square up & still have a few pounds to make a fresh start with. You want us to come back & live with you, but I am very much afraid that you &

20. 26.

Jinny would not agree more than a week or two. You would give her the same farewell as you gave Mary Jones.

I have written a letter to Dave Watkins to-day; & I have already

written to Alf Walker & David Millar, & I intend to write to doctor Nash & tell him how we are situated, & not let him think that we intend to cheat him out of what we owe. I have asked you in almost every letter to let me know if you ever see the Italian dealer, Mary Haslam, & if so to ask her to give you her proper name & address so that I can pay her the trifle we owe her. Keep this letter by you, Mother, & when you begin to answer it have it read again, & the you'll think of Mary.

You say you believe that as soon as the house is finished they will find some excuse to sack me. Well, they may do so. I am not too sure that they will not; but some of the workers tell me that there is not much fear of getting the sack while I owe the Company money. The house will cost about 20 pounds altogether, so, at the rate of a pound a month it will take a year & 8 months to pay it off. You promised a good while ago, Mother, to send Mr. & Mrs. Trezise a present, but somehow you seem to have forgotten all about it. I told them you were going to send it; so I daresay they think you are not very quick in sending it.

There is one little matter that I wish to be enlightened on: it is this:- You remember that when we were here I lost a half sovereign at the mines pay-office. Now, there is a Mrs. Cavanagh living close by here, & in the course of a conversation Mrs. Trezise was told by Mrs. Cavanagh that she knew you; for one day I lost a half sovereign, & you went to the office & said that if Mrs. Cavanagh was honest she would give you the coin if she found it. And Mrs. Cavanagh said that if you had not found it you would think that she had it. It seems that this woman used to scrub & clean the pay-office. What I want to know is, did you go to the pay-office & speak to her about the half sovereign? And did you find the money? I forget almost all about it now, but I think it was part of 13/- sick pay that I lost. Don't forget to let me know what you remember about it.

With this I am sending you a nice present. It is a pictorial supplement to the "Adelaide Chronicle" & contains 100 pictures of the mines of this colony. There are good pictures of the Wallaroo Mines, & a splendid account of them from the time of their discovery almost up to the present time. Get someone to read the part dealing with these mines, & put your specs on & look at the pictures. The picture marked Wallaroo Mines, numbers 1, 2, & 3 require some explanation. The one marked 1 was taken with a camera from a big heap of skimps near the Devon mine. If you look at number 2 you can see on the left of the picture a part of the heap where number 1 was taken from. I will mark it with a cross. Number 3 begins where number 2 leaves off. On the extreme left is the crusher. The poppet heads seen over the slime pit in the foreground is the Devon shaft that I went down to frighten you,

27.

Mother. On the right, just past the slime pit, are 2 trees that stood in Moore's garden. Moore's house & Bob Northey's that stood next to it, have gone. A little to the left of the trees is where Tom Penrose lived. Old Joe Phillips lives there now. Bob or Jack can tell you the rest. The house on the right in the foreground is old Uncle Will Stevens'. The other views don't need much explanation.

I must conclude by expressing a fervent hope that you will not be too much disappointed because we went to pick up our bundles & scurry off back at once. Hoping to hear from you soon, we remain your affectionate son & daughter, Joe & Jinny Cocking.

P.S. We are glad to find that Jack looks after Bobby's grave."

Mon. Sep. 18, 1899. I worked in the carpenters' shop yard today, until about 3 o'clock, when I was ordered to go to the log yard to help Thoday to cut out a set of timber for Jim Bennetts. We did not finish the work. After 5 p.m. Will Trezise came out & helped me to build the 11th boardful on the west side. Jack Martin was helping Joe Phillips. I suffered from indigestion today. I posted the letters & papers at dinner time. Splendid moonlight.

Tues. Sep. 19, 1899. Nat & I finished the set this morning. I went to the shop yard & cleaned up the shavings. I went out to the house this evening, & Will Trezise helped me. We filled the 12th board on the bedroom side. We got 3 papers from Mother. Good moonlight, fine weather.

Wed. Sep. 20, 1899. I worked with Frank Moroney & Jack Iles until 3 p.m. Then I went with Nat Thoday to cut out a set of small timber on the store yard. Will Trezise came out to the house, & we filled the 12th board on the chimney side. Jinny took our baby out for the first time today.

Thur. Sep. 21, 1899. I worked in the store yard with Nat & hurt my right leg with a piece of stringy bark 9x9 timber. I went out to the house after 5, but my leg was very sore. Mrs. Grose, Mrs. Trezise, & Jinny came out to the house. Will was there when I came. We finished filling the board on the chimney side. I received a copy of "The People" from May."

My Uncle John Rowe's address is:- Cor. 7th & 8th Margaret Streets San Jose, California.

Mr. Robert Rowe, Crockett, Contra Costa Co. California.

These are the friends who watched & nursed our Bobby during his fatal illness in 1898. Sunday, Mrs. Bain & Mrs. Drysdale; Mon. Mrs.

28.

Bremmel & Mrs. de Largie; Tues. Mrs. Rushforth & Mrs. Williams;
Wed. Mrs. Robertson & Mrs. Bain; Thur. Mrs. de Largie & Jinny;
Fri. Mrs. Williams & Mrs. Robertson; Sat. Mrs. Drysdale & Mrs.
Hughes, & Mrs. de Largie. Mrs. Mills & Mrs. nurse McLaughlin.

Fri. Sep. 22, 1899. My leg, which was struck by a piece of timber, is too sore to go to work, so I stayed at home & wrote a letter to the right honourable Charles O, Kingston, premier of South Australia, in which I described & gave him my new kind of railway joint, for the benefit of the people of this colony if he will accept it. The new joint would be shaped thus:-

& would minimise, if not prevent oscillation of carriages.

Sat. Sep. 23, 1899. I stayed at home again to-day, for my leg is too sore to go to work. I got my pay, which was five pounds, 5/ & 6d for a month's work. In the afternoon Jinny & I took the baby (Jose) up to Kadina to get him registered at the post office. We also got our names put on the electoral roll. Harrison, the letter-carrier, recognised me & told me that he used to go Henderson's school with me at Kadina. Jinny put ten shillings in the savings bank. I bought a square at Burden's shop for 2 shillings & 6d.

Sun. Sep. 24, 1899. I Jinny & I went with baby to Mrs. Eliza Matthews' house & had tea there. Emily Matthews was away at Will Roach's funeral, but she came home in the evening.

Mon. Sep. 25, 1899. I went to work again to-day & was in the store yard with Thodsy cutting out a small set & a shaft set. We did not finish the shaft set. I went out to our new house & worked until 9 p.m. & partly filled the 12th board on the chimney side. Jinny bought an oilskin coat for me, at Burden's shop, for 12/9.

Tues. Sep. 26, 1899. Today & I finished the set in the store yard, & went to the log yard & cut out a clay-pit set for Alfred Johns. I went to the house this evening & finished filling the 12th board on the chimney side. Rain at noon. Mistake: the claypit set was for Tom Cox & co, Bingo.

Wed. Sep. 27, 1899. Nat Thoday & I finished a big 3 legged set & began the last set. I began to fill the chimney boards this evening. Cloudy, but dry.

Thur. Sep. 28, 1899. I worked to-day with Frank Moroney, who described himself as "a bad Irishman". I went home at 5 p.m. & went up to Kadina & got some medicine for our baby.

Fri. Sep. 29, 1899. Worked at the timber all day, & then went out to the house & filled the 12th board.

Sat. Sep. 30, 1899. Worked at the logs & afterwards at the house.

Sun. Oct. 1, 1899. I read some of "Tregelles' Cornish Tales" to-day.

Mon. Oct. 2, 1899. I sent five shillings, by postal note, to Alf Walker, the Wallsend undertaker, this morning. I fixed the wallplates on the new house this evening. I posted a paper to Mother, & a paper to Mrs. Ada Bain, at dinner time.

Tues. Oct. 3, 1899. I helped Nat to finish a set that was begun yesterday, & then I went with Frank Moroney to the timber yard & cut out some 11x three & 9 x 3 timber. This evening Jack Martin helped me to put up the ridge pole on the house. I received a letter from Mother; also 3 papers. Very stormy weather.

Wed. Oct. 4, 1899. This is Kadina's Show Day, so we only worked until noon. I got my old "rip & tear" saw sharpened to-day. I went out to the new house after dinner time & put on 2 hip battens. I left my rule at the new house last night, & this evening I found it broken. Our baby has been suffering 8 days with a cold, but he is better now. Windy weather. Joe Phillips gave

me a hammer this evening.
 Thu. Oct. 5, 1899. Nat & I were in the store yard cutting out 2 sets of timber. I gave Mr. Ball 1/- to buy 2 nail bits for me at Burden's shop. I have received no reply yet from premier Kingston re the rail joint. I went out to the house this evening & put up 4 rafters. Jinny has a cold, but baby is about right now. Windy weather.

Fri. Oct. 6, 1899. We finished the 2 sets of timber in the store yard yesterday & began a set of round timber at the log yard. Nat & I are cutting out a small set of securing timber for Alfred Johns. Windy again to-day.

Sat. Oct. 7, 1899. I worked at the sawmill this morning. In the afternoon Will Trezise & I put on the rafters at the new house. The wind went down this evening.

Sun. Oct. 8, 1899. I wrote an eight page letter to Mother to-day, & a letter to Richard Seddon, premier of New Zealand re the new rail joint. We stayed at home as the wind was too strong to take baby out.

Mon. Oct. 9, 1899. I worked at the sawmill to-day, a place that I hate to work in, for the air is continually full of dust &

Oct. 30.

noise. This evening I fixed the scaffold at our new house. Jinny took Jose out to Emily Nicholls' house. Emily's Mother Maria Brickman, is one of Charles Giles' sisters. Afterwards Jinny came out to the house. Posted the letter & a paper.

Tues. Oct. 10, 1899. I was with Thoday until noon, cutting out half a set of square timber at the store yard, & half a set of round timber at the log yard. After that I went to the sawmill again. I went out to our house & carried 2 buckets of water from the pump & mixed some mortar. Will Trezise came out & helped me. The weather was very cold & windy, so we did not do much.

Wed. Oct. 11, 1899. I worked near the sawmill again this morning. I helped Jack Iles, the carter, to get a load of timber from the hay-yard, after criptime. Ned Broad, the foreman carpenter, was very civil to me to-day, I don't know why. This afternoon I went with Thoday to the hay yard & cut a set of 14 by 14 inch Oregon timber for Homes' shaft. This evening I went out to our house, & Will Trezise came out & helped me to fill the first board on the gable end of the bedroom. Mat Reed told me my ridge board is too low-- that it should be $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch above the tops of the rafters. I shall have to nail a 2 inch piece on the top of the ridge. Will Trezise went to the post office, at Oates Thomas' old house, & got a copy of the "People & Collectivist" for me. Light rain this morning.

Thur. Oct. 12, 1899. I was with Thoday in the ^{hay} yard this morning cutting out a big square set. Soon after we began to cut the set Ned Broad told us not to cut it, as the manager, Lipson Hancock, had not approved of it yet. We went from there to the logyard & cut out a set of mallee timber. Jim Try, one of the carpenters, gave me a paper with the report of a debate that took place in the Adelaide parliament on a motion to send 125 soldiers to South Africa to fight the Boers. I read it at dinner time. We finished the set at 3-30 p.m., when I went back to the sawmill, & Nat went to the emery wheel in the carpenters' shop to sharpen circular saws.

I went to the new house this evening & found Will Trezise there mixing mortar. We lifted the boards & filled them again which is the second course of the gable end of the bedroom. Trezise's little Willie ill with colic. Its name is Williamina, shortened to "Willie". As Mrs. Trezise has no son to call William, after her husband, she wished one of her children to have his name. Her elder daughter is named Myrtle. Fine weather.

Fri. Oct. 13, 1899. I went with Moroney to the sawmill & worked there until criptime (10 a.m.). After crib I went with Thoday to Boar's shaft & helped to cut out 3 legs for Hughes'

shaft. We cut 2 & part of another by dinner time. Charles Kingston, the premier, is to be at Kadina to-night, but I don't think I'll go to hear him. I went to the new house, & Will Trezise came & helped me. Warm & dusty weather.

Sat. Oct. 14, 1899. With Thoday. Went home at 1 p.m. & then out to the house. Will Trezise came out at 2 p.m. & we finished filling the boards on the gable end on the bedroom side. We shifted the scaffold to the chimney end, & I fixed the 2 little boards & partly filled them. Did not get anything at the post office. Good moonlight.

Sun. 15 Oct, 1899. Jinny & I went out to the old Dora mine with Will & Mrs. Trezise. Rain began to fall, so we had to go home.

Mon. Oct. 16, 1899. With Thoday again cutting out 3-legged sets for Jim Bennets. I went to the new house after 5 p.m. & Jack Martin came & helped me to lift the boards from the chimney end. We first put up 2 rafters. Cold wind.

Tues. Oct. 17, 1899. Thoday & I were in the log yard. We cut out a half set & a small set before dinner time. We began on the Northern end of the logyard this morning. Jack Martin helped me to build some more on the chimney end of the house. He had to go away at 7 p.m. to see someone about the transfer of a block of land near the old 415 mine. We received 8 copies of the Newcastle Herald from Mother to-day.

Wed. Oct. 18, 1899. I was with Nat again, cutting out sets of round timber. We went to the store yard first this morning & cut 2 studdles 6 feet long. This evening Jack Martin was out helping me again to build on the chimney side. I had 3 dray loads of attle carted to the house. The attle or addle is blue-black stonex~~hax~~ that form the walls of the copper lodes in the mines. Jack Martin had to work overtime at his forge to-night. Very windy weather.

Thur. Oct. 19, 1899. In the logyard with Thoday cutting out big sets of 12x 12 stringy bark, 16 feet 6 inches long, 2 feet 6 wide inside. I went out to the house at 5 p.m., & Jack Martin helped me to build some more on the chimney end. Dry, windy weather.

Fri. Oct. 20, 1899. I went to the logyard & helped Thoday to finish the set we began yesterday. Then we helped Frank Moroney to get a long piece of oregon out of the "dandy". I cleaned up the yard, & we went to the logyard & cut out a claypit set. It is a lovely day.

Sat. Oct. 21, 1899. This morning Jinny & I took our baby to

Moonta with Will & Mrs. Trezise. We all went to Mrs. Young's house at Yelta & had dinner & tea. Jinny & I went to the Wesleyan Sunday school anniversary service. I also had a look at the mines & saw a couple of grave-like pits at the bottom of a big heap of copper ore tailings, or skimps, from the jiggers. Water is pumped onto the skimps & is caught in a drain at the bottom of the heap. Bits of scrap-iron are put on perforated plates that cover the pits, & the water is run over them. The sulphate of copper that is in the water is changed to sulphate of iron, & the metallic copper is deposited on the scrap iron which is agitated frequently, & the copper, like golden sand, is washed into the pit. When the pit is full of this copper the water is diverted into a by pass & the copper is shovelled into casks. This copper is almost quite pure. The sulphate of copper is produced by the oxidation of the sulphate sulphide of copper into soluble sulphate, which is bluestone. Mrs. Trezise stayed at Young's to see doctor James about little Nellie, who is ill. We rode through Moonta Mines on the way home, & arrived at 8 p.m. fine weather.

Oct. 23, 1899. I was with Thoday in the hardwood shed, pulling out 12 x 12 inch pieces for a shaft set. Andy Anderson, the tinsmith's brother, is here. I got from the mine company 154 feet of deal timber to make 3 doors, also 3 six inch logs & 4 butts. I went to the house this evening & partly made a door for the back. Windy weather.

Tues. Oct. 24, 1899. Worked with Thoday & Paul Anderson, cutting timber for the shaft set. After 5 p.m. I went out to our house & hung the door at the back. We have had another wagon-load of wood brought to the house. It cost 30/-.

Wed. Oct. 25, 1899. I have been with Nat cutting sets of timber in the blacksmith's shop yard, & in the log yard. This evening I put a lock on the new back door, & partly made a door for the bedroom. Cold, windy weather.

Thur. Oct. 26, 1899. With Thoday cutting big timber. When I left work & went to the house I found Jinny there. She brought a screwdriver that Hilda Young bought at Burden's shop for me. I put the second door together & hung it in the bedroom doorway. Fine weather.

Mon. Nov. 6, 1899. With Thoday at the logyard. We received a letter from Mother, & a bundle of papers; also a letter from Jack Reed, Lithgow. There was a heavy thunderstorm yesterday, & some rain. Last Saturday I worked with Thoday cutting a square set; & in the afternoon Pat O'Grady, Will Trezise, & I put the roof on



Feb. 15th. Februar 18

33.

Premier's Office,

Sir,

Replying to your letter of the 22nd. September last, I am directed by the Honorable the Premier to inform you that as your suggestion for a new Railway Joint is not a new one, and is not recommended by our Engineering Authorities it cannot be adopted by this Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Under Secretary.

Mr. Josiah Cocking,
Wallaroo Mines,
K A D I N A.

35.

our new house. I have now got the 3 doors & the window sash put in place; & I am building the small wall for the flooring joists. This evening Will Trezise helped me to pick out places for the middle wall joists. Posted a letter to Mother; & one to Rigby, the bookseller, on Light.

Oct. 31, 1899. I have received a letter from the premier of New Zealand, which is as follows:-

" Premier's Office, Wellington, 30th Oct. 1899.
Sir, the Premier instructed me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant on the subject of the points of rails, & to thank you for the trouble you have taken in the matter. I am, however, to inform you that the proposed joint, which you think you have invented, is not original, as rails of a similar kind have been & are in use to a considerable extent in America. The result has not been, however, satisfactory, & the system is not being perpetuated. Under these circumstances the Premier could not recommend a trial in this Colony. Yours obediently A.W. Willis".

Wed. Nov. 8, 1899. I have been working at the shaft set that Thoday has contracted to make. I believe he is to receive 9 pounds for making it, so he is all fuss & bustle. He said that if I do my best to help him to cut out the set he will give me something when he is paid. I ordered some skimps & an iron tank of Mr. Burnett, the foreman mason, this morning. Cloudy.

Fri. Nov. 10, 1899. I am still working with Thoday at the big ~~shaft set~~ plat set of square timber. Went to Kadina this evening & had a shave & hair cut at Fred Hancock's shop. He knew me, for his brother William married my step-father's (Charles Giles') sister Jane, who is the mother of Mrs. Selina Murphy, of Federal Row, Wallaroo Mines. Fred inquired about all of the family. He looks well, & seems to have a prosperous business. I then went to the Rechabite Hall to hear Gregor MacGregor lecture.

Sat. Nov. 11, 1899. I am with Thoday still. I went out to our house after I left work, & Pat O'Grady helped me to build the hearth in .

Sun. Nov. 12, 1899. This morning I wrote to Mother. In the evening Jinny & I went to our new house, & had a look at Pat O'Grady's house, which is also in Federal Row.

Mon. Nov. 13, 1899. I am still working at the plat set with Nat Thoday. I had a bad attack of toothache this afternoon; so, after 5 p.m. I went up to dentist Pannel at Kadina & had 2 teeth extracted. We intend to have our baby's photo taken by photographer Page, Kadina. Jinny wrote to Jack Reed, Lith-

360.

gow, yesterday; & I wrote to Rigby, King Wm. street, Adelaide, for a book entitled "The Slide Rule & How To Use It". Cool & windy.

Mar. 16, 1900. Dear Mother, Your very surprising letter of the 4th arrived safely, & we have been in a queer state of mind ever since we read it. I am very sorry indeed to find that, although you have so relations by blood & marriage, you are left so lonely at the very time when you most need company. This loneliness of yours, Mother, is what makes you wish to have to have me back again. That is quite natural. It is a pity for you & me, & thousands of other mothers & sons, that conscienceless capitalists have the power to part us. I was very sorry to see us go. We have been here about 11 months now, & during that time I have worked long & hard to make a new home for us, & I have made a rough shelter from the weather. We are just beginning to feel at home & get things fixed up comfortably; & now we find that you are anxious to get us to break up our bit of a home again & go back to the place which we were so glad to get out of, notwithstanding our sorrow at leaving the family. This puts me in a peculiar position & condition, for I am anxious not to do anything to give you pain or sorrow, & at the same time I wish to look after the welfare of Jinny & our baby.

Of course if I could live near you again, & could be sure of being able to earn a living for us, I would gladly take the chance to do so, provided that I could do it in peace. This brings me to a point that I wish to speak plainly on. You all know that ever since I married Jinny she has been in almost constant trouble with one or another of the family. Her life & mine were hard enough with poverty & sickness, but that did not prevent someone from making it harder & more cheerless by secretly carrying yarns about little or nothing. Mind, I don't blame anyone in particular, because I don't know who made the mischief. Ever since we have been here Jinny has had a peaceful mind, & has been better in health & spirit for it. Consequently she almost dreads to go back to where her life was made bitter by poverty, scandal, & death. There was too much unfriendliness shown to her by those who should have remembered that she was an honest, hard-working orphan girl, & one that I considered good enough to be my wife. She is a good wife to me & a good mother to her children. This being so, I think she ought to be treated fairly & squarely if we go to Wallsend again. This is not written to hurt anybody's feelings; indeed I am very sorry that I have to say it at all: but for the sake of peace & harmony it is necessary to say what I have said. You will see by this that there are only 2 obstacles in the way of our returning, & they are my fear of being out of work & dependant

37.
on all of you again; & Jinny's fear of poisoned-tongued back biting & scandal, which is harder to bear than poverty. Therefore, if you wish to see us again before next Christmas you must first get me a start on a job that will last some months where the wage is more than 5/6 a day, & for a boss who will pay me when my wages are due. The Hestlows (or some of them) are remarkable for being bad payers. I don't know whether Ben is sticky-fingered with money too. I can do the work that I am at now all right, & am fit to work at home after knock-off, too; but even if you get work for me on the tramway that you mentioned I don't know whether I could slay hard enough to keep my job. And it is not very likely that I could get work at the Wallsend pit again, & I wouldn't work at the Co-operative pit if I could. It was my going there that ruined me before. Besides, I suppose it would be impossible to get work there while black Barr is there. I have suspended my building until I hear from you again on the matter for it is useless to build for nothing.

We have paid 8 pounds now on this house; so if we do decide to return we ought to get 8 or ten pounds for the house, & the buyer would have to agree to pay the company the 3 pound still owing on the building material. We have very little to sell, & would have to almost give the things away. If we do return it will not be until the Easter holidays, when the fares are cheap. I will write away for information concerning the fares by train at Easter time right through from Kadina to Newcastle; & the freightage for 1 of our big cases. We are tired of travelling by steamer; &, although it is cheaper than the train it is slow. The train takes 4 days to do the trip from Kadina to Newcastle; so if we go by it we shall save 10 days. If I could start work at 6/6 or 7/- a day as soon as we arrived, I would make 3pounds five or £ 3-10-0, which would probably make up for the extra fare on the train. I am glad to find that Bob & Liz Jane give you their company as often as they can.

You mentioned about us living with you, Mother, Well, for my part I would be quite willing to do so if I were single, but Jinny is very quick-tempered & sensitive, & I know well that you 2 would not live peacefully together in the same house. You say that you are not enjoying good health, Mother, & that if we came back it would be new life to you. You think too much of your children, Mother, but I can't blame you, because I must confess am also too affectionate & sentimental to get on well in this age of stone hearts & India rubber consciences. I am very sorry indeed to find that your health has not improved lately. If I were sure that it is my absence that is making you worse than usual I would not hesitate to sell out & go back. You also again remind me that I have not said a word about Liz Jane & Jim. Well, I don't know how it is that I forgot to mention them again. Tennyrate, I humbly

apologise for not mentioning them, & hope it will not happen again. To show that there is no iciness between us I will send them a letter with this, in a separate envelope. We are gld to find that Liz Jane & the children are keeping well, but sorry to see that Jim has had a bad leg. I suppose he has got over it by this time. We are also glad to find tha May, Jack, & all the children (except Bertie) are well. If we return I will help Jack to build his new slab house. We are likewise pleased to find that Bob & Ethel are quite well. Having promised to help Jack to build, I must & do hereby promise to help Bob to sink his tank, if we go back. It seems that "Uncle Boab" is having a hard battle to fight with saint David & Morse; but if it is the means of curing Bob of Jingo Australian patriotism it will be a number nine boon to him. We are getting the papers all right, & are very glad to get them, although there is little time to read. If you get me work, let me know where it is, who is the boss, & what the wages are. We are quite surprised to learn that Fred Baker has left Co-operative pit. I thought Fred was a permanent fixture there. I hope Bob will keep those plates dry & dark. Bob mentioned about the Sulphide Company going to have more furnaces at Cockle Creek. I am not anxious to go there to be leaded, & if he gets me a job I hope it will not be there. The letter that you sent with the papers is a circular from Germany for a big State lottery which is continually carried on there with the aid & consent of the Government. I am not buying any Jarman tikids ad bresent. I am glad to hear that that Charlie has at last received a letter from his brother Steve. That was a bad job for Charley Brown. What was it? a sprag left down because it wass too much bother to put it up I hope Jack & Charley are careful with their sprags. It takes a little time to set a sprag, I know; but a man may get 6 months in a hospital through not having enough, & a man can set a lot of sprags in 6 months. We thank Bob & Jack for their promise to look after dear Bobby's grave. We have not been able to pay Alf Walker & doctor Nash yet. We were hoping to be able to pay them off before now; also Hugh de Largie. I have not had a letter from Hugh for several months now. Perhaps he is vexed because we have not repaid him. I see that doctor Nash has gone from Wallsend at last. We owe him something yet, too, but he can probably afford to wait. No doubt you are disappointed at us not sending you a telegram to let you know whether we would return. The reason why we did not telegraph was that we could not afford the 3/- for th telegram. Besides, it is not required, for we shall not be ready to leave here until Easter week. Easter Monday is on Ap. 16th, & Good Friday on the 13th. Our next pay day is the 31st of March. It is now the 17th of March (Saint Pat's Day); so our next pay day is 3 weeks off yet, & Good Friday is about

39.

five weeks away. So you see there is plenty of time to correspond by letter if you reply at once to my letters. You say that Bob has taken a house for us. I am sorry that Bob made so sure of us returning immediately. It will be time enough to take a house when you get a word from us to let you know that we are about to start on our return trip. At the same time I am glad to find that Bob has such an abundance of brotherly love, & I give him a hearty vote of thanks. To conclude for the present, I will repeat what conditions we will consent to return upon. Firstly, I wish to have a job that will last at least 6 months, where the wages are at least 6/- per day. Secondly, I don't want to work in the Co-operative pit. Thirdly, I would like a promise, from those who are anxious for us to return, that they will treat Jinny as well as they would like to be treated if they were in her place. If these conditions are complied with I will promise that we will return at Easter time, provided that we can sell out by then & are all quite well. At present Jinny & I are quite well, but little Jose has a bad cold. He is getting better slowly, though, & will probably be all right before Easter. We hope you will not take offence at anything here written, for I am only anxious to banish bitterness from the family, & have peace & mutual happiness. We remain to you all affectionately Joe & Jinny Cocking.
P.S. We sent the illustrated Butcher's book to-day. Very bright pictures of very dull fools."

Copy of a letter from railway commissioner re tickets:-

"Commissioner's Office, Adelaide 29th March, 1900.

Sir, Replying to your inquiry contained in your letter of the 27th instant, I beg to say that a special excursion train will leave Adelaide for Melbourne & Sydney at 8-25 on Monday, April 9th. The second class fare between Adelaide & Sydney is £ 4. These tickets are available for return up to May 14 by any ordinary train, but not express. As regards the journey from Kadina to Adelaide, tickets at a single fare for the double journey will be issued from the Wednesday before the special runs until the last train that can connect with the special from Adelaide. You must, however, pay for the tickets to Sydney at Kadina, receiving a coupon which must be exchanged at the Adelaide booking office for the cheap excursion tickets.

The rate for a case weighing, say, 5 cwt. from Kadina to Sydney will be £ 5-3-8. Yours faithfully, Alfred R. Day, Secretary
Mr. J. Cocking, Wallaroo Mines."

Copy of my letter to Mother:-

"Wallaroo Mines, S. Aus., Sun. Ap. 29, 1900.

Dear Mother, Brothers, Father, Sister, Eva, Ethel, May, Jim, & Kiddies, I have placed the kiddies last, but they are not the

least in my estimation; 32% & I was pleased to see, by the rather short letter that arrived from you on Friday, that they 40- are all well, & that you are also all well. I am very glad to find that Mother has started to go out more: it will do her good. I see, Mother, that Bob & co are still anxious to have us back again. I have never been up to the East Greta colliery, but I have seen it from a distance, & I have heard very bad accounts of the place from those who have worked there. Some of the men who were working at the South Greta pit, where I worked, said they wouldn't work at East Greta-- it was too dangerous. Of course they have a union there now, which would make some difference for the better; but Maitland is a place that I have a violent dislike to; & if I went to work at East Greta we would have to live at Maitland & pay rent. The people of Maitland are too loyal & patriotic for me. I don't like too many patriots around me, they make me too miserable. Eight & ninepence a shift is better pay than 5/6, of course; but I have asked for a rise, & expect to get 5/9 next month. If I don't get it I may be inclined to think more seriously of returning to the Newcastle district. Pat O'Grady & I have been wiring in at our bedroom, & have got it built 5 feet high, which only leaves 4 feet more to build. We have got the window complete from the mine company, & have built it in. I have been off work with boils & poisoned sores on my right arm & wrist. I am expecting to start again to-morrow. Jinny is quite well, but she has had some trouble with her breast, which was bitten by something (a centipede, I think) last week. However, it is almost quite well again now. Young Jose is just getting over a rather severe attack of diarrhoea, but even while he was bad with it he was as lively as a kitten. He is a good-tempered kiddie--turns after me, you know; except when he is cross, then I am reminded that in some respects he resembles his Mother. That reminds me that Bob is amused about those teeth. Jinny sez that what she sez was like this:- "I think he is going to have trouble with his teeth, as he is evidently to cut them crosswise". Of course Jinny is like Bob-- she doesn't use many commas, semicolons, or full stops in her letters, so if she did not make her meaning quite clear you must excuse her.

We are rather disappointed about the rules of the cemetery. We thought that the trustees would not be very anxious to enforce the rules about putting shells or wreaths on the grave. I suppose we shall have to wait until we can have Bobby's grave paid for before we can put any stone or wreath on it.

I am glad to see that Jack has got over his illness & can work again. We were up at Kadina seeing the house where you say I was born, Mother, but as there 2 corner blocks, & 2 fences that join the church fence, I was not quite sure which house you meant. Do you mean the house that faces the street that runs from Herbert's butcher shop, past the post office, & up by old auctioneer Lang's house? I am thinking of taking the photo of the

41.

house when I am sure which it is. Which reminds me that I am thinking of building a little dark room at the back as soon as we have finished the bedroom. Page, the photographer, has not finished poor Bobby's memorial cards yet. Every time I go to get them he tells me that he has forgotten them, & they are not done Dear Mother, I wrote the foregoing last Sunday night, but as I hadn't time to finish then I put it off until to-day, May 6th. Last Monday Dick Casely died, at his old residence, of consumption of the throat. He had a bad cold at first, but he kept on with his engine driving at Kurilla until he got too bad to work. Then he laid off for a few days, but instead of getting better he rapidly got worse, & finally died in his wife's arms. Mrs. Casely is left with 8 children; 3 of them are quite crippled & have to be carried about,. They do a good deal of fancy work & raffle the articles they make. The people here express great sympathy with Mrs. Casely; & the collection that was taken up for her at the pay office yesterday will probably be a large amount. In addition to that, doctor Letcher & others intend to get up a concert or entertainment of some kind this month. So, with the collection, concert, & Lodge money, Mrs. Casely ought to be all right, as far as money is concerned, for a good while to come. You will see an account of Dick's death in the "Plain Dealer" that I am sending with this.

It will interest Charley to know that his neice, Selina Hancock, & her husband (Davis) are living with Emily Brickman (Nicholls) at the old house. I hear that Davis intends to build a house near Fred Court's (Polly Dalby's husband) house in Federal Row. Young Mary Nicholls was here with Court's baby the other day, & told us that young Jimmy Hancock (Bill's son) & Selina Davis & her husband were coming to see us, but so far they have not come, & we have not gone to see them. I have no time for visiting, for the new bedroom takes all my time after 5 o'clock. If they are anxious to see me they will come, anyhow.

We received a large bundle of papers from you yesterday, & were glad to get them. By the way, it may be as well not to send me any Sydney papers until the Plague has gone from there; & you had better not take them yourselves because the plague germs are easily carried in newspapers. I see by the papers that the intercolonial excursion trains are not to be run next month for fear of spreading the plague, but I hope that it will soon disappear, & that long before next Christmas it will be stamped out, so that it will be possible to run a cheap excursion train through from Adelaide to Sydney, & one from Sydney to Adelaide. I say, Bob, couldn't you manage to come here for a trip next Christmas, & then we could all return to Wallsend together. It would only cost you 4 pounds for a return ticket. Let's know what you think of the suggestion.

There is trouble here with the ropers. Bob Arnott is the head roper, & Jim Davis is his assistant. It seems that some time ago

492

Mr. Brown, the chief engineer, received a letter, with no name attached, that accused Arnott of turning in overtime that he never worked. It stated that Davis was a far superior man for the work, etc.. The letter was read to Arnott by Brown. Then Arnott accused Davis of writing the letter to get him out of his billet, which Davis denied, & he asked to have his handwriting compared with that of the letter. That was not satisfactory, for it was contended that if Davis wished to send a letter containing charges he would get someone else to write it. So things are not even middling in the rope ers' shed at present, & it is likely that one of them will depart to fresh fields & pulleys new.

I worked all this week, but my arm is covered with sores yet I said that I expected to have a rise in wages this pay. Well, the pay has come, but not the rise; so I will try again. You will be glad, in one way, that they have not raised my wages, for it will help to bring me back again.

Last Sunday our baby was all right, but since then he has caught a croupy cold, & is suffering with it yet. Jinny & I are pretty well & hope you are all the same. When you write again let me know whether you have received a letter from Jimmy Boase, Bob. Last week I had the loan of 4 copies of a paper called "An Appeal To Reason", which is published in Girard, Kansas, U.S.A. It is the very best Socialist paper I have seen. It is capable of enlightening the darkest intellect if it is properly read. Why, even Bob would turn Socialist within 3 months if he would read the paper.

As soon as I can afford it I will send a quarter's subscription to America for it; & when I have read it I'll send it to you, Bob. That reminds me that you promised to get "The Dogs & The Fleas" for me from old Bill Dunn.

We got a great & pleasant surprise the other day, Mother. We received a bundle of papers a good while ago, but they got mislaid behind some books. Jinny was looking for something & found the bundle, & when she opened it she found your Clement's tonic testimonial. You did not say anything about it your letters, & that is why we were so surprised. Did Clement have the good manners to send you a few bottles of tonic? I believe a few bottles of it would remove these boils; but as I pay 6/- a month to a doctor I will not buy tonic. Well, as I have to write a letter to Hugh de Largie, I must finish for the time. Mrs. de Largie wrote, just before she left Wallsend, to let us know she was going. So far I have not had time to reply to her letter. Bob mentioned about going to West Australia, but I do not think it would be advisable to go there, for it is reported, in the "Plain Dealer", that there are thousands of men out of work at Boulder City & other places.

Jim Humphreys is back here from Kimberly, South Africa. He

brought back a Boer shell, & it was shown in a Kadina shop window. He is going back when the war is over & the British have murdered most of the Boers & frightened the rest. Bill Humphrey is there, getting 30/- a day.
Hoping you are all quite well, we remain yours affectionately
Joe & Jinny.

P.S. I am sending some wild tobacco seeds which I wish Bob or Jack to sow to see if they will grow."

Copy of Brother Bob's letter:-

"Plattsburg, N.S.W. May 29, 1900. Dear Brother & Sister,
Just a line or 2, for I expect you have got my other letter by this time, & you would notice by it that I told you of little Pearlle Pettigrew was very low & given up by the doctors. She has passed away to-day, & will be buried to-morrow. We all knew she could not last long. She had the same complaint as young Bobby had, & of course there is no cure for it. I trust both of you will send Liz Jane a letter of sympathy to cheer her up a little, so don't forget to do so. I will give you full news next next time. I am in a hurry to catch to-night's mail. Excuse the short note. Give you all news next time. Bob."

Copy of my diary, written on the way back from Kadina:-

"Tues. June 12, 1900. Jinny, Jose, & I left Kadina by the 7-25 train this morning, for Adelaide, which we reached at 1-51 p.m. I paid £ 3-14-4 for a ticket for Jinny & myself to Melbourne.

Wed. June 13, 1900. We left Adelaide railway station at 8-25 to-night for Melbourne.

Thur. June 14, 1900. We arrived at Melbourne to-day at 3-55 p.m. & never went off the platform until 5-15 p.m., when I paid £ 3-1-4 & £ 3-1-4, mostly in gold, for each of 2 second class tickets to Sydney. This surprised me, for I was distinctly told Alfred Day, in his letter of the 29th of March, that the fare between Adelaide & Sydney is four pounds. I tried to explain to a red-headed ticket seller that I had been ticketed to Sydney, but he was too busy to listen; so I had to buy the 2 fresh tickets, which took nearly all the money we had.

Fri. June 15, 1900. We arrived at Sydney to-day from Kadina, & sent this telegram to Mother:-

"Arrived Sydney all well. Met us at Wallsend 11 tram. The telegram cost 1/-. We travelled in the evening train to Newcastle, which we reached about 9 p.m.

Copy of a note from Pat O'Grady:-

"Wallaroo Mines, July 7th, 1900. Dear Joe, I got the oven money from Sammy at last. I have not time to write a long letter this time, as I have only just time to get a money order before

44.
closing time. We are all quite well. Will is out of bed for the first time for over 3 weeks. He has Bright's disease of the kidneys, but is getting on pretty well now. Hoping you are all well I am yours fraternally, P.O'Grady. Enclosed you will find, if you have not dropped it on the floor, a P.O. order for two pounds £ 2-0-0. P.O'G."

"Wallaroo Mines, Aug. 5th, 1900. Dear Joe, It is just a month ago, to be exact, on the 7th of July I posted you a note in which was enclosed 2 pounds £2-0-0 the proceeds of the sale of the oven. Every week since I have been expecting an acknowledgement, but none came. Now, Joe, two pounds is no small sum in these days, & as money has gone astray before to-day-- I once lost 5 pounds between 2 post offices--I hope you will understand my anxiety. Will you please write at once & let me know whether you got the P.O. order or not. I began seriously to think that post offices had been abolished in N.S.W. Even my paper, "The People" which arrived regularly for 3 or 4 weeks after you left, stopped all of a sudden. Yesterday I got 2 bearing date July 14 & July 28 after being 4 weeks without any. The previous last bore date July 7. Hoping you got the money all right, & are working, I am yours sincerely P.O'Grady.
To Josiah Cocking, N.S.W."

Copy of a portion of a letter from Pat O'Grady that I answered on Aug. 5, 1900.

".... The Kadina Model Parliament is dead & buried. An effort was made at the last meeting to continue as a Literary & Debating Society, but, as only 4 or 5 turned up, nothing was done. Do you get the "Herald" over there? I wish you would, not because I think it is becoming more Socialistic, (it actually quoted from & acknowledged "The People" last week) but I want you to read the letters of "Organise" on the one side, "One Jno Smith" of Kadina on the other; the subject being Capital V Labour. I want your opinion of the merits of the thing, as "One Jno Smith" knows you & values your opinion. The first letter of "Organise" you saw before you left here. The talking shop in Adelaide has been going for a couple of weeks. Some of the speeches of Labour members have been making me rub my eyes. Tom Price, the leader, has them very bad, but I fancy by the time the Federal elections come on the people will have forgotten their patriotism, but will remember his. Labor member Archibald has been lecturing in the Adelaide Demo. Club on "Imperialism" to a very scanty audience. A full report appeared in the "Herald", & I was glad to notice a--for him-- rather trenchant criticism by the editor, giving the other side, that is against Imperialism. Gregor McGregor also lectured in the Port Adelaide Demo. club on "The Power of the Press". It was a very good lecture. He mentioned 7 or 8 Labor papers circulating in Australia

but to my great surprise, omitted "The People". Yours truly, thinking the slight undeserved, penned him a note pointing out the mistake, & by same mail sending him the 2 latest copies of the "People" that I had, asking him to make amends for the omission by becoming a subscriber. There is nothing of importance locally to interest you. Syd Eddyvean has not to my knowledge been near the house since you left, nor have I seen him since. Nat Thoday is still on the old job; his present mate wears a white apron at work, similar to those worn by grocers. I see that "The People" announces your return from S.A. I have no doubt the movement gains in N.S.W. but how about S.A. Now, Joe, old man, there is plenty of work to be done in a quiet way. Don't you think, for instance, the nett result would be more satisfactory in, say, 5 years time if you adopted a pen-name when writing to the press? Nuffsed. A word to the wise is sufficient. Poor Will has been laid up from kidney trouble for the last 3 weeks, but is nearly well again. He has blossomed into an author, having.... "
(The latter part of the letter is lost).

Copy of Emily Matthews's letter:-

"Wallaroo Mines, Tues. Aug. 21, 1900. Dear Jinnie & Josiah, I am almost ashamed to write to you after keeping you so long. However, you must forgive me this once. We were exceedingly pleased to receive your most welcome letter some little time back, to know you got back safe & sound. We were very sorry to learn that little Jose had been so ill, but sincerely trust he is enjoying the very best of health at this time. Give him a dozen kisses for us, the dear little fellow. Mother was wondering so much about him, it being so fearfully rough & cold for your travelling. I suppose your Mother was delighted to see you after being away so long.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading your letter. It seemed so interesting to know you had so many marked passengers with you. I should have smiled to have seen those 2 young ladies & the young gentleman, poor fellow! When they get my age they will know better, it is to be hoped. I reckon you had an all right time going back. I hope when you make up your mind to reside at Ballarat you will not forget to give me an invitation to come over. I have always heard what a beautiful place it is, & I suppose that is my share as regarding any more that I shall ever see or know about it. I hope you have a nice place to work. We have thought such a lot about you, Jinnie, since you left. I hope you are comfortable in your new home, & enjoying good health. I mustn't forget to tell you that Will Trezise left here about a week after you went. He is at Broken Hill, also Mrs. Trezise. She sold her house to Mrs. Will Thomas. She made 15 pounds of the house alone. I daresay she finds Broken Hill a little different to this place. She told me they were to pay

9/6 a week rent; so if it is better wages there are other that almost make the pay equal to this place. Unless one has a house of his own he is just as well off here. I think the mines here are much the same as when you left; plenty of work & very little pay. There is great excitement here at present about 8 Hours Day. There are 800 people leaving here on the first of September for Adelaide. It's a grand trip, the fares being 2/9 return for the day, or 5/6 for 11 days. I'm not going down this year. If Fred was home he would be going down. He used to go every year when he was at home. He is getting on nicely in the West; but Will had a misfortune a few weeks ago. He was at a Lodge meeting, & when he returned his box of clothing & everything worth taking was stolen from him during his absence. It was a bit of hard luck for him after so much trouble that he has had. His bank book was in his box; & that also is gone; & the thief even tried to get his money by producing the book, but I am pleased to say he was not successful.

There have been quite a number of deaths since you left. Both Tommy Tonkins' are dead. The one that lived near the railway crossing not far from Mrs. Trezise's-- he was buried on Sunday last-- & the other little short Tommy Tonkin that used to live near your old home near the Mines school, was buried on Monday week. Also old Mrs. Mutton. I don't know of much news to tell you this time.

Hoping you are all enjoying the best of health, Mother joins in sending her kindest love to you all. Believe me ever to remain your sincere friend, Emily Matthews. Write soon, & do forgive me for keeping you so long. Kiss dear little Jose for us. Mother often talks about him. Millie & Willie are getting on splendidly. I suppose you are hardly ready to come over yet."

Copy of a letter from Aunt Grace Perkyns to Mother:-
 "Redruth, September, 1900. Dear Brother & Sister, I take the pleasure of answering your kind letter, which we received all right. I am very sorry to see that you suffer so much. I am sorry that I kept you waiting so long. The reason is I have been waiting for your photos, but they have not come yet. You told me to keep believing; & I think I ought to have good faith to wait so long. You said about your daughter. I should only like to have hers & the children. I am glad to hear she has a good husband. I am glad to see you have good sons. I should think that is some comfort to you. If I were you I would ask my sons to gather in some money between them & send you home here for a change. You have somebody to help you, but we have no one. You said sell out our stock & come out there. Our few things are not much; the price of them would take us to Scorrier, & walk the rest. You said to ask Billy t

No. 48.

to send us some money to help. We could not do that after he was so kind to Father & Mother as long as they lived. I have not heard from the boys since I wrote to you last. I have been inquiring about Mary Warsley, but I can't find out anything about her. Eliza Hill's family is very well, & they call to see us sometimes. We are hoping that the Boer War is coming to a close soon. We think the times will be better after that, but it is very dull now. The price of nearly everything is rising. We are well pinched to live. The war has made some difference everywhere. We have no chance to rise. It looks as if there is always something to keep the working-class people down. I think it is time to have a change. Saint Day people are smiling now; they have heard that the United mine is going to work again. We hope it will be like it used to be. We are well & hope this will find you the same. No more from us--your affectionate Brother & Sister, Walter and Grace Perkyns." (Answered 6/1/1901.)

Copy of Pat O'Grady's letter:-

"Kadina Sep. 9, 1900. Dear Friends, You will notice by the above that we made a move to Kadina. Yes, we are free at last. Being of a suspicious nature, I thought the best thing we could do was to sell our house at the Mines, & be, in a sense, independent of the Company. So, seeing a vacant house opposite to the mill, I snapped & sold the house at the Mines. I had paid the Company £ 10-5-0, so I got that back, & fifteen pounds over, that is twenty five, all told. I also sold the iron tank for 2 pounds--what I paid for it. The buyer--Jim Sandercock--is quite satisfied with his bargain, & so are we. We are paying six shillings a week rent.

Will & Mrs. Trezise have gone to Broken Hill. I cannot say, Joe, that I am very sorry that you have allowed your enthusiasm for the movement to cool somewhat. You & the movement will be all the better for it later on. One must give a little time & thought to one's own immediate friends and affairs; but later on, Joe; later on!

I took a trip to Adelaide on Labour Day, & stayed 2 clear days. There was an enormous crowd, or rather crowds, all over the city, but apart from that & the great noise produced from certain wind, bang, & thump instruments, there was nothing worth seeing or hearing. I was on the point of giving it up & returning home in disgust by the next train, when an incident occurred that might possibly alter the whole course of my life. I don't know whether I ever mentioned to you that a certain lady who used to write in the Herald, & sometimes in the "Clarion" above the pen name of "Garde", established a society called "The People's Fellowship", which, however, fell through after a very brief existence. Well, I have been, for the last 3 or 4 years, very anxious to make this lady's acquaintance; & in the midst of all the meaningless banging

& clatter my long-wished-for opportunity came. A cousin of mine happened along & invited me to Glenelg to see his little motherless child, 2 years old, who is being brought up by this best of all good women. Well, I secured an introduction & had as pleasant & instructive 2 hours chat as I ever had. I learned that the fellowship, although nominally disbanded, is by no means dead but is quietly & surely being rebuilt on a surer basis. She gave me several books, papers, & leaflets which I will let you have later on. The Fellowship intends starting a weekly paper to be called the "Sunrise", when sufficient funds are in hand. So at last there is a movement in South Australia, & I have found it. It is worth working for. I wish you were with me that morning while Mrs. Benham (Garde) was talking. She said so much that was only partially intelligible to me, you would have made a very good interpreter. I suppose it is rather too much to ask you to write to her. She is so pleased to think that anyone takes an interest in the Fellowship. I have to write to her & say what I think of the reading matter that she gave me.

I am much obliged to you for sending "The Dogs & The Fleas". How amusing, & yet how true most of it is! I must read it once more, & then I suppose I had better send it back to you. I hope you will get on at the engine-driving--in fact I am sure you will. I have also gone in for a little study, my subject being shorthand. My teacher, Teddy Mellin, tells me I am getting on famously, but it is tedious work, Joe. Some day I may want to report a speech or lecture for a reform paper, say, the "Sunrise", or I may be able to teach the boys as they grow. Will can already make the alphabetical signs, but of course I won't allow him to go on with it--not yet, anyhow. Poor Will is anything but well, although he has got over the attack of Bright's disease. He seems all right while sitting or lying about, but directly he exerts himself a little he is almost prostrated. The others, also Mrs. O'Grady & myself, are all right. Tell Mrs. Cocking that our little Tom has 2 teeth. Now don't forget, as I have had orders from his mother to mention it without fail.

We hope yourself & Mrs. Cocking & Jos junior are well, & that you are "getting on". The only political event of any note lately is the death of Sammy Tompkinson, M.L.C. the greatest Tory of one of, if not the most Tory upper house in Australia. Sammy was in for the metropolitan district, where never a Conservative should have a show. An election to fill the vacancy will be held in about a fortnight. So far there are only 2 in the field--Kingston & J.L. Parsons, a Consul for & friend of, the Japanese. The Labor Party is not putting a man forward, having decided to support Kingston. The general opinion seems to be that Parsons has no chance. There is certainly only one in

the contest if the people who are enrolled only go to the poll. McGowan of Sydney was over on 8 Hours Day & is reported to have said, at the social in the evening, that Adelaide had a better prospect of becoming the Federal Capital than Sydney had. Everyone has since been asking "What is he giving us?" But enough of politics; I am sick of them all. Of course I will vote, but anything in the way of organisation on political lines is doomed to failure until we have had from 5 to ten years' hard thinking; then we might begin to realize what we do want.

I have started to take the "Clarion" again, but I have not seen the "People" for about 5 weeks; in fact it has been a monthly paper for a long while. I fancy my sub must be about due; but as I seldom get the paper I can't possibly see the colored mark. I intend to write to the managing editor shortly, & if he has not already done so, ask him to discontinue sending it. I don't begrudge the money, but there is certainly carelessness on his part, or dishonesty on the part of the post office officials. I have been to Shaw's seven times about those almanacs, but they have none left; but I made the promise to hunt one up from somewhere. I will call on him again to-morrow. Mr. Page slapped his knee & remarked that he had forgotten all about those photos. He promised to send them on. I will also see him again, Best wishes. Yours P. O'Grady, Kadina, S. A."

Copy of de Largie's letter:-

"Miners' Institute, Kalgoorlie, W.A. Oct. 27, 1900.

Dear Joe, Your letter arrived here alright, & the reason I have not answered it sooner is that I have been driving in my stakes into the sandy colony; that is to say I have been adding another room to my camp, & wanted to get it finished; consequently your letter & others had to wait until the present. Re the political part of your letter: it just falls short where I would have preferred to have it continued.

The most difficult part is just that which you omitted, namely the old fiscal question. One would have thought that the amount of sinking that we have done with that question that it would have been drowned long ago. But here it bobs up at the Federal elections just as if we had not put it into water at all. Now, as far as I can see, there is only one thing to do with it now that intercolonial freetrade has been secured by the adoption of Federation. I would say, if there are any industries that require protection in order to foster them, let the Government start & maintain & control such industries as Govt. departments; then, if there was any profit accruing from those trades, the people would benefit. I think this is the shortest cut to take to secure the extension of the Government as an employer, & to usher in State Social

ism. If the cost of government were derived from the land & from the industries which Government would have full control of, we would have the best solution of the fiscal question that I have yet heard propounded. Now, I want your opinion of this when you write; & unless you think it is politically sound I don't want you to agree with it. I don't know that it is necessary to make this last remark, for I always found you perfectly candid, especially if we differed politically. I rather like that idea of yours re resuming works or mines that would be closed by proprietors to evade awards that we are in favour of the workers. I think Socialists have been altogether too honest in politics. As you're aware, it's made a dirty game by the carpet-bag politicians; & seeing they don't play fair, why should we be so very fair that we would not take advantage of opportunities to sneak in Socialism in the manner you describe. You say that many of the trade-union leaders, not being class-conscious Socialists, blunder into thinking that Arbitration will settle all our industrial troubles. If you were over here you would observe a more lamentable want of economical sense than is apparent in N.S.W. Most of the people, & many of the leaders in the trade union movement are Victorians; & of all the colonies, for economical ignorance Vic takes the bun. However, with the assistance of Tom Beasley, Bill McIlroy, Bob Smith (late of Teralba) & others I am knocking some horse sense into them. Things political among the workers are mixed just now. The Victorian brand of trade unions wish to ignore the Labor League. The Workers' Association, of which I am president, desires to work in harmony with the League, seeing that they have adopted the platform & principles laid down at the Trades Congress. This is the first time in my experience that I have heard of a political party refusing the votes & support of another association which asks nothing in return. You will incline to think they are mad-- these Victorians. What I say is a fact, nevertheless. We held a conference yesterday & sat all day wrangling over this miserable business, & the result was that the conference rose about 7 p.m., & all we succeeded in doing was to produce a very decided split among the trade unionists; & I feel just like some of you Socialists feel when you are slating the fat heads for their foolishness. I might as well tell you that there is a bit of personal chagrin in the business. One of the prominent men on the other side is the only real opponent I have to beat in this selection, & he is beginning to see I carry too many guns for him. Fergie Reed is also another opponent, but he has Buckley's chance. However, the split will do us all no harm; unless it

.1. 52.

is healed there won't be much chance for any of us. Everything as it ought to be I have a good show of being returned to the Senate, & you can just rely on me making the most of my opportunity. If I fail in the federal elections, there will still be left a chance for the less elevated position of the Legislative Assembly; & if I'm to put "Senator" in front, or M.L.A. after my name I shall always be able to put "Socialist" to it all the time. If you have any of the 1896 platforms that you mention you might just send a copy along, as literature of that kind is scarce here. I see by the press that Newcastle is coming to the front again. Just about time, too! Taking it all through the piece, I think a miner is just as well off there as ~~here~~ anywhere else. I suppose your baby's hands are alright by this time, & that Mrs. Cocking is in her usual health, not forgetting yourself. We are all well here so far. The heat has not troubled Mrs. de Largie much, & she expects to negotiate the Summer successfully. The postal note which you sent had not arrived at the time I despatched my last letter, hence no mention of it in that epistle. I am returning it enclosed in this letter as it can't be cashed in this colony. There are many Novocastrians leaving here to go back to the canny coal City. McIlroy intends to leave in a few weeks. Dan Rees went some time ago. Jack Jones of Lambton, who came over with me last time, went away last week. Few people come here to stay, & the least little revival of trade in the East & the swags are being rolled up. Give my regards to all old comrades, & especially Harry Tyldeley & Jack Robinson. Trusting to hear from you soon I will now conclude before I weary you. Yours etc. Hugh de Largie."

Copy of Jack Martin's letter:-

"Wallaroo Mines 4th Nov. 1900. Dear Friends, No doubt you think by this time that I have forgotten you, but it is not so. As you asked me to send you Will Trezise's address I have been waiting for a letter from him so as to be able to send you the right address. It is:- W.A. Trezise, Crystal Street North, Broken Hill, N.S.W.

I wrote to you & put a stamp on & sealed the letter, but I kept it so long waiting that it got out of date. Any time I get a letter from Will, & there should be any alteration in the address I will let you know. He will be very pleased, as I was, to get a letter from you. He is boss on the jiggers, & is getting on fine. I miss his company very much; he is a good old trump. Yes, I say I was very pleased to get a letter from you, & hope to get another soon, if only a few words. Now, pardon me, please, for keeping you so long. I hope you are all well. Well, dear friends, we hope you are comfortably

settled down by this time & that you have a good job. I can't forget you because, for one reason, I am using that little pick you gave me nearly every evening. It is the best thing I could have met with, having so much use for it. I have sunk one tank & build nearly half of 2 rooms. I have used all the water I caught; so now I have started another I am very busy.

There is a man come here from Spain. He is going to treat all the skimpings in the mine; they reckon there is a lot of copper in them yet; & that makes it rather expensive for any one building now&& requiring skimpings, as we have to pay 4/ a load for them if wish to have them. There is a lot of surface hands put underground to work. Now things are very busy with the coolies, & we have a plenty of work in the blacksmiths' shop. All that knew you were pleased to hear me say I had a letter from you, & they wished to be remembered to you. They said, as I said, they were very sorry you were going, but..." (The rest of the letter is lost).

Copy of portion of a letter from P.O'Grady :-

"Kadina, South Australia, Dec. 1st, 1900.

Dear Joe & Mrs. Cocking, We were very pleased to hear from you, but sorry for the accident to poor little Jose, poor little fellow, he must have suffered terribly. I hope he is not permanently injured, & that you are all well. Coming to ourselves, we are all well except Tom (baby); he is suffering from diarrhoea, but is improving. I myself have been very ill since I last wrote. It seems that I picked up influenza while in Adelaide in Sept., which laid me aside for five weeks. After the influenza, Bronchitis must need poke his nose in ; & what with one & the other I had a lively time.

However, I am as well as I can expect to be while I follow my present occupation. Willie, I am pleased to say, has recovered from the attack of Bright's disease. Warner's safe cure did it; so make a note of it, Joe: it is indeed a "safe cure Apart from Bright's disease he is the same as he was formerly, neither better nor worse. Jack Martin tells me that he sent you Will Trezise's address, so that's all right.

I see by the "People" that there was a lively meeting in New castle the other evening, when Holland & Fegan, your Mines Muddler, said things to each other. By the way, lest I forget that blue mark has been appearing on my People lately; & as I don't want them to stop it(I have been getting it more regularly since I left the Mines, significant, eh ?) I wish you would, if you see any of them, ask them to continue sending it. I have not sixpence to send, & will not have a pay till the Saturday before Christmas; then I will send a year's sub. No, Joe, there is no definite political platform laid down for the People's Fellowship, for the simple reason that it is

not a political association; & may it never descend to such is my earnest wish. It is nothing more than "the union of all who love in the service of all who suffer". Its aim is to inspire the people with love for each other; or perhaps a better way of expressing it is "a drawing together of all those intense lovers of humanity into one fold". Then supposing the members have a distinguishing token, say a badge or scarf pin by which to recognise each other; say you, Joe Cocking became a member & an Adelaide member came to Wallsend penniless, would it not be a good thing for him when you got half a glance at his badge? I don't think he would be friendless very long. Yes, Joe, the germ of a wonderful organisation if politics do not spoil it. I am getting more sick of politics & politicians every day that I live. Except for educational purposes, the mass of the people, in my humble opinion, are far better disorganised. I remember well a remark you once made:- "If you want to spoil a good man, put him into parliament". A truer saying was never uttered.

But to return for a moment to the People's Fellowship. You say:- "Before people attempt to abolish the giant evils of society they should well understand what those evils are."

However, next general election will decide. Personally, I think the same crowd of Laborites with the same old faith in the ultimate triumph in the "Liberal & Labor line of cleavage" & all the rest of the silly make-believe will be repeated as in the past.

I am thinking of taking of taking a trip to Adelaide after I finish the stope, & see how the wind blows. Alice, who thoroughly understands, is heart & soul with me: that, I think, is something to be thankful for. Have you seen the "Clarion" lately, Joe? If not, you are missing a good thing. Since "Nunquam" has "Come aboard, Sir", a wonderful change has come over that paper. I sent you by post a book called "Mental Therapeutics". It is not Socialism nor anything like it, but it is very interesting. It rather scared me at first. You see, I had not read anything like it before; so, after reading the first chapter or so, I put it away; but I tackled it again after I had seen the author & heard him lecture, & read it through. I read it twice again-- the last time just before posting it to you; & I came to the conclusion that, like most books, I could not accept all its teachings. However, there is some good in it. "Mental Therapeutics" & kindred books are good mental exercise, if nothing more. Nothing like broadening one's mind, Joe, & trusting to one's common sense, to reject what is harmful if followed.

Dave Watkins was in Adelaide a week or 2 ago, & lectured in the Democratic Club on Unionism & Consiliation & Arbitration, or something. I sent the Herald along to you with a brief report of the lecture. I also sent, enclosed in the Herald,

I wanted to get the worth of the penny stamp. I have had, I think, 1 "A.A.A". since you wrote, & the "Herald Of Health"; for which I am thankful.

I called on Mrs. Vincent yesterday, but, I am afraid, with unsatisfactory results. Mrs. Vincent does not know what her late husband's mother was called. At first she thought it was Mary; then she was positive she did not know. Mrs. Elijah V Vincent had 3 brothers-- Joshua, who went to America; John, who went to sea in a man-o-war boat, afterwards married & settled down in Wales; & William. Mrs. Vincent & her husband were born in Devonshire, but went to live in Cornwall. The old lady has lost all her teeth, so I found it very difficult to catch the names of places that I had never heard of before, but I think she said that after they left Devonshire they settled in Cornwall at a place that sounded like Saint Blazey. Your Mother or Mr. Roberts might take that as a clue & unravel it for themselves. She mentioned several places that she said were in Cornwall; but on looking over my rough notes that I took down at the time, I fancy she is mistaken-- they are unmistakably Welsh names. That is all she could tell me about her late husband's relatives. About her own she was more communicative. Her Father's name was William Dawe, of Givraljngry, Devonshire. Her Mother's maiden name was Cocking. Mrs. Vincent had sisters-- Elizabeth, the eldest, married, but no children; & Mary Ann, who married a man named Morgan & went to America, had a large family & died there. That is about all I could gather, Joe. The old lady says she is quite willing to answer any questions you or Mr. Roberts care to put to her through me at any time.

I am sorry that we cannot send the photos this time. We did intend to have them taken before Christmas, but circumstances over which we have no control, etc. I am also sorry that I cannot send those old "Harbingers Of Light", as promised. Dr. Funell, who is the only one that I know of that takes the paper, will not let them out; he keeps them all. I have seen that book of Florence Marryatt's--"There Is No Death", & had 3 or 4 chapters read to me. It is, like most of the others, very hard to swallow. I am firmly convinced that there is something in Spiritualism; but I am also convinced that there are a lot of impostors connected with it, & that a lot of credulous, but good, people allow themselves to be imposed upon in the matter.

I am now reading volume 6 of the 1889 to 1890 "Proceedings of the Psychical Research Society". This is a large volume with 700 pages. It is 9 inches long, 6 inches broad, & 3 inches thick. A very critical work. Now, dear Joe, Spiritualism may be alright. I will be convinced only when I have found it by private circle among friends who have no other object but to find out the truth or otherwise of Spiritual

ism. Some day I will, if I find 2⁰³ good earnest men & women friends who are willing. Wishing you all prosperity in the coming new year, we are your sincere friends, Pat & Alice O'Grady. Math Mitchell sends his best respects to you."

Copy of a letter from Jack Reed:-

"Lithgow, Jan. 14, 1901. Dear Joe & Jinnie, It is with pleasure I now write these few lines to you hoping to find you all in good health, as this leaves us all at present. We were not surprised at you writing from Wallsend as we had heard that you were back. Do not think that I did not think it worth the trouble to write to you. It was not that. I was out of work, & I put off writing from week to week, hoping that I would get work, as I do not care for writing poverty. Well, I was 6 months out of work after the strike. I could not get a start in any of the pits. I used to get a few days at the smelting works. I then got 12 weeks work for the Council. I am now working in the Hermitage pit. I have been there 13 weeks now. We are doing very fair at present. There would be plenty of work in the pits here if they could get trucks. We at the Hermitage pit get 1/3 per hour. Kate is in Sydney. She has been there since a fortnight yesterday staying at her brother Harry's. She is coming home on Friday. I did not go to Sydney for the holidays: I am putting it off until Easter, & if I can get off work for 3 or 4 days I will take a trip over to see you then-- Pearl & I. Henry & Stanley went with Kate. The holidays passed off very quietly here-- there was nothing at all on. There was a great number of people went from here to Sydney. I have not thought of asking the Westons if they got the photos or not, but I will ask Jack & let you know next time. I hope that the baby (Jose) is quite well by this. We were very pleased with the cards. I think that this is all I can tell you this time, so I will finish by wishing you a happy & prosperous new year. We remain yours, Jack & Kate." (Answered Jan. 26, 1901.)

Copy of Nat Thoday's letter:-

"Kadina, Jan. 15, 1901. To Mr. J. Cocking. Yes, I now take the pleasure of writing those few lines hoping to find you all well as it leaves us at present. I know you will think it a very long time getting an answer from me, but you must excuse me as I have had a lot of trouble, as our boy has been very bad with the same as yours--bronchitis-- & we thought we should have lost him. So we should only for Holloway's ointment. The wife has been very bad too, with colic. So I have had a fine time of it; but they are alright now. I received that agreement, but I think there is too much red tape about that form; & I thought they found the things, but they don't. But they may not be so bad as I think they are. I could not find the things myself, - but I thank you all the same, old boy. You know this is shorthanded. I don't know if you can read it or not. Pat O'Grady was

57. down on Sunday & brought me a letter-- it was alright. We are still at the wood, Sydney & me, but I am full up of it: & the boss-- Ned Broad-- has been very mad since you have been gone, & Pod Guts are still going around the place. But the Bingo mine is going to start next Monday, & if it does I will leave the Pod Guts. So you see I will have things alright, what Alf?. Things are about the same in the mine Old Jim Bennets is still in trouble & always will be, I think. Well, it is getting late, Joe. If I am late the Pods will be "on upon" me in the morning; so I better close down for this time. So, wishing you well, I remain yours truly, Nat Thoday, Bingo, near Kadina, South Australia."

Copy of Jim Moroney's letter:-

" Australian Socialist League. General Executive, 251 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, Feb. 20th, 1901. Dear Comrade, Received yours yesterday, & glad to hear things are pulling round again, as I was sure they would. I have sent circulars to all whose names are on the book of the Newcastle Branch, & some others for Saturday night's meeting. You should have them when you get this. The meeting will want something definite to deal with, & in order to provide them with business to go on with I send you the following suggestions to place before those who attend.

Morrish & I will be in Newcastle on Saturday week, March 2nd, & will speak from Hollingshead's balcony on Saturday night. Holland thinks it is the best place to take. I want you to engage it for that night. Tom Melling is also to speak with us as one of the candidates. Sunday afternoon we will speak at Islington Reserve; (not as candidates, of course) but to give addresses on Socialism.; getting there just the same. Monday night at West Wallsend. We want a hall taken there. Will you make arrangements for me? or get someone out there to do it. We must leave for Sydney again on Tuesday morning.

re advertising. We propose to advertise in "Newcastle Herald" all 3 meetings, but will send down about 1000 dodgers for West Wallsend, as we think the Newcastle meetings will be advertised well enough in the Herald. Holland thinks so. You must remember we have a great amount of ground to cover, a lot of printing & other expenses, so we have to be careful with the cash. Our fellows in Sydney are taxed to the utmost to keep the "People" going & keep the Campaign Fund up; so we want you chaps to help all you can. If it is thought that more extensive advertising is necessary, will you try to do it yourselves? I shall bring 2 or 3 thousands of the Manifesto. We want all who intend to remain in the League to fully accept the Constitution, aims, & tactics of the League & Party. Mention this. If the meeting is successful send a report to Newcastle Herald-- also par about our campaign meetings; &, if they have not yet printed them, send along the names of our 6 candidates. I will send the ads for the meetings, & the copies of the manifestos, through you

Nov 7 1905
LAMBTON MINERS.

The quarterly meeting of the local miners' lodge was held last night. Mr. A. Britt presided.

The lodge committee recommended that a deputation be appointed to interview the manager asking that wheelers be not allowed to fill skips of round coal other than on the banks.

It was gleaned during the discussion that the matter of wheelers being allowed to fill large coal and receive 1s 3d per skip for it, is supposed to be detrimental to the interests of the miners, as they often filled them in other places than on the banks.

The recommendation was adopted unanimously.

The delegate (Mr. D. Mason) read the minutes of a delegate board meeting held on February 21, 1901.

The action of the board in voting the sum of £75 to the Outtrim miners was approved.

The advance of £35 paid to Messrs. Sparke and Millard, solicitors, in connection with the Dennis' case, and £12 12s in connection with the Burwood case, was agreed to.

The minutes recommending that the sum of £81 be transferred to the district officers' fund was adopted.

The action of the board re the Cardiff miners' difficulty, the appeal from a member of the Elmore Lodge, the proposed arbitration on prices paid at Maryland and Northern Extended collieries, the case of the Mount Nicholas and Airly miners, the proposed deputation to Mr. Croudace (general manager of Scottish Australian Mining Company) re prices, and the protest entered against the small coal arrangement made by the proprietors with regard to fire coal, was upheld without discussion.

The motion from Elmore Lodge, viz., "That the district officers, with the four Labour members for this district, interview the Minister for Mines, and request him to introduce into the Legislative Assembly an Amended Coal Mines Regulation Bill providing that where employees ascend or descend in a cage, such cage shall be furnished with an automatic safety catch, which shall be examined and tested at least once a week," was approved of unanimously.

The following gentlemen were nominated officers for the ensuing quarter:—Chairman, A. Britt; secretary, W. Kerr and J. Dorrity; treasurer, E. Hardy; delegate, D. Mason; auditors, W. Scott and S. Bradley; scrutineers, J. Blackwell and W. Jenkins; pick boy, E. Amour and H. Treharne; ballot taker, W. Owen; committee, Messrs. J. Blackwell, S. Bradley, Mark Jarrett, Geo. Spruce, J. Davies, J. Anderson.

**FEDERAL LABOR PARTY.
FIGHTING PLATFORM AND GENERAL PLATFORM AS ADOPTED AT CONFERENCE, JULY, 1905.**

OBJECTIVE.

(a) The cultivation of an Australian sentiment, based upon the maintenance of racial purity, and the development in Australia of an enlightened and self-reliant community;

(b) The securing of the full results of their industry to all producers by the collective ownership of monopolies, and the extension of the industrial and economic functions of the State and Municipality.

FIGHTING PLATFORM.

- 1.—Maintenance of a White Australia.
- 2.—Nationalisation of Monopolies.
- 3.—Old Age Pensions.
- 4.—Tariff Referendum.
- 5.—Progressive Tax on Unimproved Land Values.
- 6.—Restriction of Public Borrowing.
- 7.—Navigation Laws.
- 8.—Citizen Defence Force.
- 9.—Arbitration Act Amendment.

GENERAL PLATFORM.

- 1.—Maintenance of a White Australia.
- 2.—Nationalisation of Monopolies—if necessary, amendment of Constitution to provide for same.
- 3.—Old Age Pensions.
- 4.—Referendum of Commonwealth electors on the Tariff question when the report of the Tariff Commission has been completed; the Party to give legislative effect to the decision of the referendum vote.
- 5.—Progressive Tax on Unimproved Land Values.
- 6.—Restriction of Public Borrowing.
- 7.—Navigation Laws to provide—(a) for the protection of Australian shipping against unfair competition; (b) registration of all vessels engaged in the coastal trade; (c) the efficient manning of vessels; (d) the proper supply of life-saving and other equipment; (e) the regulation of hours and conditions of work; (f) proper accommodation for passengers and seamen; (g) proper loading gear and inspection of same; (h) compulsory insurance of crews by ship-owners against accident or death.
- 8.—Citizen Defence Forces and Australian-owned Navy.
- 9.—Amendment of Commonwealth Arbitration Act to provide for Preference to Unionists and exclusion of the legal profession.
- 10.—Commonwealth Bank of Deposit and Issue, and Life and Fire Insurance Department, the management of each to be free from political influence.
- 11.—Uniform Industrial Legislation; amendment of Constitution to provide for same.
- 12.—Civil Equality of Men and Women.

PLEDGE.

I hereby pledge myself not to oppose the candidate selected by the recognized political Labor organization, and, if elected, to do my utmost to carry out the principles embodied in the Federal Labor Platform, and on all questions affecting the Platform to vote as a majority of the Parliamentary Party may decide at a duly constituted caucus meeting.

Candidate's signature
Date

304

W.D.L. W.B.R. March 3rd 1894.

LABOUR
ELECTORAL LEAGUE.

WALLSEND BRANCH.

BALLOT PAPER.

CANDIDATES.

Result of Ballot.

WATKINS. 365

McILROY. 44

DONNELLY. 125

DAVIES. 12

ESTELL. 45.

49. 60.
& generally stir things up. If necessary you could call a meeting of the League for Sunday morning, Mar. 3, when Morrish & I would attend to talk things over. I would also suggest that you take the position of secretary of the Branch. This is all I can think of just now. I suppose you all have ideas of your own. Our opening meeting on Monday night was splendid--large, quiet, & enthusiastic. Sydney Morning Herald's report was the best. All our people full of enthusiasm, & growing interest all round in our party. With best wishes, & trusting to see you all in fighting trim on Saturday week. Yours fraternally Jas. O. Moroney, Gen. Sec. Australian Socialist League."

Copy of Mrs. de Largie's letter:-

"Miners' Institute, Kalgoorlie, Feb. 27, 1901.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Cocking. I received the photo: thank you very much for remembering me. It is a true picture of yourself, & Mrs. Cocking, & the baby looks lovely. You would take him to be over 2 years old. He looks so intelligent for a baby so young. I hope he is spared with good health, also his mother & father. I don't think he is a bit like dear little Bobby. Many times I have thought of that dear little soul-- how he suffered before he passed into the world beyond. I hope he is better off. This little son that has come to you to fill his place looks the picture of health. Long may he be spared to you! He has changed a lot since you had him taken in South Australia. I was disappointed at not getting a letter from you. Hugh wrote to you over 3 months ago, & we have been wondering if you got the letter. We have had 3 or 4 letters from Wallsend since then. Hugh has been away about 7 weeks now, & not nearly done yet. He has a very wide stretch of country to go over, & he has had some very trying weather since he left here. He has been all round Menzies & Leonora & a lot of other places up that way. He was a fortnight up there; then home one day, & off the next day to Perth. Spoke in the Town Hall; then to Fremantle & had another meeting. Then to Bunbury district. I forget the names of the places in the timber districts--Jarrahdale & Geraldton down on the coast, then to Southern Cross, & then home. I expect him about the middle of March. I think he has got on very well. He has had good meetings at all the places. I would have sent some papers with the reports, but I could not remember your address until I got the photo. I send the papers every week to J.B. Robinson. I receive papers from them every week. I see by the last paper Mrs. Peel's death. She was Jack Fahey's sister. And Sarah Parsons is dead at Pitttown. I had young Brown in seeing me to-day. His people live near W. McIlroy. They want him home since times have got so good. His brother had £ 8 clear last pay. He works in Wallsend. I see by the paper things are looking up there. They are not too well with me just now. I have only had a fortnight's pay--8 pounds--since Christmas holidays, & it's such an expensive place to live with a family. I had just

16/- worth of water, that is 200 gallons, when the rain came on. But we will get over all this as we have done before. Mrs. Robinson has not had such good health lately. She & her sister are thinking of taking a trip over here to see me soon. She is going to take advantage of this bit of spurt. I will be glad to see her. This leaves us all in good health. It is very rough travelling for Hugh. He has had to ride in trucks to get over the ground as quickly as possible, & has had to be there at 4 in the morning to catch them, to keep down expenses. He had to engage a buggy for 2 days to hold meetings at the different mills. That was another fortnight by the time he got back to Perth. Then he started for the Murchison. He left Perth at 7 a.m. & arrived at Cue at 4 p.m. in the next day. It is a long ride, but he had a worse trip before him. He was received by a warm lot of friends. The next place is Nannim, 50 miles from Cue; the next place is Abbot, 40 miles; the next Peak Hill, & 70 miles; & all this by coach, which is worse than 3 times the distance by rail. He comes back & speaks at Cue, Day Dawn, Lummonville, & Mount Magnet. I hope this finds you all as well as you look in that photo. I have never had myself taken since I came to Australia; but if that better time comes I will remember you. I remain your old friend, Mary de Largie. x A kiss for the baby. To Mr. Josiah Cocking, High Street, Plattsburg-Wallsend, N.S.W." (Answered Mar. 28, 1901.)

Copy of a letter from P. O'Grady:-

"~~xxxxxxxx~~ Kadina, Mar. 24, 1901. Dear Joe & Mrs. Cocking, Your letter of Feb. 10th arrived safely, & would have been replied to sooner but for many reasons. In the first place, I have been trying to gather the information you wrote about in your last letter. I have asked everyone who I thought would be likely to know anything about the matter. Frank Tanblyn & all whom I spoke to seem to think they would be running a risk of losing their jobs by giving the information. They did not say so straight out, but there was no mistaking their meaning. However, I will keep on trying. We were very glad to find that you are getting on so well over there. No doubt you find 9/9 somewhat better than 5/6. I could do with a few months at that figure myself. We had a settlement last Saturday, & it did not pan out quite as well as we expected. We expected 8, or at least 7 shillings a day, but had to be content with six. We expect, however, to get a little more next take. I have been rather, I was going to say unfortunate, but I really think I should say fortunate, since I last wrote. I have met with my first accident underground. It happened in this way:- There was a pass by which we come & go to & from our work, leading from our stope up to the level above. The top ladder was secured by placing a pole across th

62. 51
top of the pass & through the ladder, under the rung-- a wooden one. The next ladder is hung to the top one by means of a strong hook, or rather crook, about 2 feet six inches long, & so on until you get to the bottom--about 10 fathoms. Now those ladders should have been spiked or clamped to the timber so that the weight would not be all on the one rung. Our mates intended doing so next morning, but they should have told us about it so that we could have brought the tools to do it at once (we were afternoon shift). Anyhow, we saw the danger, but decided to risk it for once; & literally "fell in".

We got down all right & worked till criptime--7 o'clock--. We then started to climb up-- George in the lead & myself a few feet under him. We got to within 20 feet of the top, when crack went the top rung, & down went the 2 of us-- ladders, crooks, & all! You know the ladders, the same as that heavy one you had while building. Well, we fell I think about 30 feet, but George says less. The ladder I was on stopped, got across the pass somehow, & curiously, but very fortunately, the one George was on, & the 2 above him, also stopped at the same time. The pass being only 3 feet by two, you can imagine the fix we were in. The life almost shaken out of us, we had to get down somehow; & how we succeeded is a mystery, as the ladders were crossed & mixed up altogether just below us. Anyhow, we got out of it & got a light, & lay down for the remainder of the shift. I was considerably bruised about the back, had a lump as large as a thimble on my forehead, a nasty cut on the eyebrow, a lip cut almost through, & a very much bruised arm. But what puzzles us is, on looking at the wreck afterwards, how we escaped so lightly. My mate got off almost scot free.

We were very pleased to receive your photos, & still more pleased to have your assurance that we are numbered among your best friends. And you can also rest assured that when we get ours taken you will not be forgotten. But, Joe, I thought you already had ours, taken by yourself, & more than that, we have been expecting one for a long time. Were they left at Page's for him to develop, or did you take them with you?

I took advantage, last week, of my enforced idleness, to pay a visit to Adelaide. I stayed from Friday till Monday, & on the whole, enjoyed myself fairly well. On Friday night I attended a lecture by W. J. Colville in a small hall in Hanson street, & enjoyed it very much. On Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock I attended another lecture by the same man at the same place.

On Sunday evening I heard J. A. Adey, editor of the "Herald", at the Democratic Club. His lecture was entitled "Robert Burns, the Poet of Democracy". He spoke fairly well, & advised us all to study Burns. He recited a few of what he considered Burns' best poems; but for the life of me I could not see where the democracy came in. I called in at Buttery's & bought "The Gospel Of the Poor", & "Politics For the People", both b

by Morrison Davidson. I suppose you have read them both. 63.

I also got those threepenny pamphlets by Leo Tolstoy. I have only read one of them--"Letters On War", which is an eye opener. "The Century" is not going on very well, & little wonder, too; it has gone from a weekly to a monthly. About a fortnight before I went to Adelaide I wrote a letter to the editor, asking him to come down from the clouds & give us a little reading matter that we could understand; something more practical, even if it was only a column or 2 a week. I pointed out to him, among other things, that we were like a lot of children lost in the bush; & that he, to whom the bush was familiar, in his wanderings had come across us & promised to deliver us out of the forest into a better land; & that while we were engaged in collecting a few scattered units, he, without waiting, had set out helter over hill & dale without looking back to see if we were following. I pointed out that the majority were too weak & hungry to follow at the pace he set; & that others who might keep within coo-ee of him were unwilling to leave the weak to the mercy of the monsters that dwelt in the forest, mentioning particularly Wage-Slavery & Competition. I pointed out that since his arrival on the scene scores had fallen victims to these monsters. I refused to believe that their cries were inaudible to him, even though he were far away up in the clouds. I begged him to come back & stay with us & fight the beasts of prey by which we were surrounded; because we refused to go on without the weaklings. I begged of him, as the ascent was so steep, to make the pace less warm.

Well, Joe, I am aware that you do not care for that style of writing; that you prefer the plain language. Sometimes, I admit, it is best, but not always. Now, I went to the Century office, when in Adelaide, & made myself known to the editor. He informed me that I had almost monopolised his thoughts since he had read my letter; that it had struck him deeper than anything he had read for a long while; & that he certainly intended in the next issue, & from now onward, to give effect to my suggestions contained in that letter. He assured me that that letter was an inspiration, & whenever I felt like writing I was to sit down & fire away, as he believed I could be of great assistance to him.

Now, Joe, I am not going to make an Ass of myself by frequent writing to any paper; but I often try my hand. Up to the present the result has been almost nil; but if I do happen to create anything worth publishing I will certainly help that paper on. I put the straight question to Mr. Wood, (the editor), "Are you a Socialist?" The answer came just as straight,--"Most decidedly!" Then followed the natural question:- "Then why the devil don't you write Socialism?" His answer was a distinct promise that in future he would do so. Now, Joe, what are we to infer from the above? I

64.

have been in the habit of looking up to editors as men possessing great minds-- as men who could not be influenced by the perusal of such an ordinary thing as that letter of mine-- & the thought forces itself on me that possibly someone else might push him off the track as easily as I drew him on it. I asked him if he had "The People" on his exchange list; but he had not even heard of it. I tried to get one in Adelaide, but there was not one to be had in the whole city! Before I leave this subject let me ask you not to get the idea into your head that I am getting vain. I write to you what I would write to no one else, because I think you understand me better than anyone else does.

I mentioned about that matter & subsequent interview to show you that the man can be influenced for good. I extracted a promise from him that not only would he publish anything reasonable that I wrote, but that anything dealing with Socialism, from the pen of any friend of mine would have very favourable consideration.

Now, Joe, you know what's coming. The Century will be published on the first Wednesday in each month. Do me & the other toilers in S.A. a little favour. Write a short, stirring article for the May number. Don't make it too harsh, as that may defeat the very object I have in view. You have educated me, & can educate others. I am a Socialist & nothing else. I am, as far as my limited means will allow, trying to spread the gospel in this State. I am not skiting, but I sent 4 names to Harry Holland a week or 2 ago-- one at Port Pirie, & 1 at Gladstone in the North, one at Macclesfield-- my birthplace-- in the South, & 1 at Kadina. I will watch the contribution column in the People, & if any of their initials appear therein no doubt it will stimulate me to further exertion in the same direction. You said in your last letter that you did not expect any of the Socialists to reach the Senate. Well, I don't agree with you: I expect to see 3, or at least 2 of them get there. Read H. Lamont's letter in Sydney Worker of March 16, headed, "How to Plump".

I used to tell you when you were here that we on this side could not understand the people of N.S.W. in their attitude towards the fiscal question; but I understand it now alright. We have had nothing these 4 weeks but figures, Coghlin statistics, & comparisons between freetrade & protectionist countries. We have first been swayed one way & then the other by different speakers till we scarcely know where we are. I tell the lads, whenever I get a chance, that the speakers are all fooling us; & that we have to go deeper than the fiscal question to find a solution of our difficulties. Sir Josiah H. Symon, Q.C., freetrader, was here the other night & gave the most eloquent address that Kadina-ites ever heard. We were all spellbound; so much so that not a question was asked him. But, Joe, there was nothing in it after a

65
all but lies. He told us, for instance, that the revenue for the Federal Government Must be raised from customs; that according to the Constitution we were not permitted to raise it in any other way.

After the meeting, outside, I pointed out the inaccuracy of this statement to a small group, including Mr. Blizzard, our chief Democrat. Well, some who ought to have known confessed their ignorance of the matter. I asked them to wait till Symons came out, & I would convince them that he was wrong. Blizzard stoutly defended Symon & declared he was right. Wood, another freetrade candidate & a Labor rat at that, came out first, when someone put the question to him, & he declared that Symon was right. Not being satisfied, I still waited, & on Symons appearing I tackled him; & , would you believe it, I had to put the question to him in 3 different ways before he gave me a satisfactory answer.

The answer came at last:- "The Federal Government have the power to raise the revenue they require by any means they care to choose; direct taxation, for instance, but it would be a very unwise thing to do. Adding, in answer to another question, It would not be against the letter of the Constitution, but it would be against it's spirit".

It opened the eyes of a few, but I am afraid they closed them again very quickly. Now, Joe, we have only 4 Labor men running--2 for the Senate & 2 for the Reprs; & in this State plumping is allowed. The whole State is one electorate for both houses; so I am going to plump for Labor. They are the 4 best in the party, & can be trusted, I think. Anyhow there is nothing else, except, perhaps, Crawford Vaughn, the Single Taxer. I think I will give him one.

Hoping you are all quite well, as we are, we remain yours fraternally, Pat & Alice O'Grady. Kadina, S.A.

Don't forget to hear Colville if he goes your way. He described himself on Sunday as an Anarchist."

Copy of another letter from P.O'Grady:-

"Kadina, Mar. 31, 1901. Dear Joe, In answer to your last letter dated Mar.19th I have to say that I have made further inquiries, this time I think with more success. A man named Hancock, a fitter at the mines, has given me all the information he possibly could. I have just got back from his lodgings this (Sunday) morning with the following answers to your questions. 1. Who invented the safety catches at present or first used at Wallaroo Mines? Clift, foreman smith at Moonta Mines; altho safety catches had been used in other countries for many years previously. 2. Was the invention patented? No, not in South Australia; they may have been patented in other countries, but if so the time has run out. 3. What is the total weight of the safety catch? In Wallaroo Mines the weight is about 1 cwt.

4. What is the weight of the man-gig? About 10 cwt., but in mines where the shaft is vertical, instead of as here, under lie, the weight of the gig & the catch would be reduced one half. xxx 5. How often are catches examined & tested, & by whom? In the Wallaroo Mines the chief roper has charge of all ropes, gigs, & skips, & is responsible, to the company only, for their safe working. He examines them about twice a week, but they are seldom or never tested, that is the rope is seldom or never cut for the purpose of proving whether the catches will hold: that test, however, was applied when the catches were introduced, & they held. 6. How are catches tested? See answer to question 5. 7. How long, on the average, does a catch last? Having no wear & tear, they will probably last longer than the gig. 8. Is a catch expensive to keep in repair? NO, the first cost is practically the whole cost. 9. In what other countries are safety-catches used? In all countries where mining is carried on. 10. Have there ever been any accidents through the catches failing to act? My informant has never heard of one; but I heard that only once in the history of Wallaroo Mines has the rope broken while men were in the gig; & on that occasion one of the gig's wheels came off while travelling to the surface & dropped between the side of the gig & the runner, stopping the gig dead & snapping the rope. Whether credit must be given to the catches, or to the wheel being jammed between the gig & the guide, I can not find out-- probably both helped; but it is a fact that the gig, full of men, remained where it was when the rope broke. 11. Is it compulsory by law to use safety catches on gigs in South Australia? No, but it is compulsory in New Zealand, West Australia, & Queensland, & (my informant thinks) in Tasmania. In W.A. it is compulsory to use catches & Middleton hooks. The Middleton hook is a device for preventing the gig or cage from being pulled to the top or over the poppet-heads. It unfastens the rope from the cage before reaching the poppet heads. 12. Could the safety-catches be made to grip on wire rope guides instead of wooden runners? Yes, there are safety catches in use on wire rope guides, but they are not considered as safe as those used with wooden runners. I am enclosing a rough drawing of one. You will notice that Nos. 1. & 2 are the the same. You are supposed to be standing with No. 1 in front of you; while with number 2 you are supposed to be above it, looking down the shaft or pit. You will notice the parts marked A are whhels or rollers with jagged edges or teeth; those marked B are shafts to which the wheels or roller are keyed firmly: those marked C on number 1 & number 2 are the wire ~~ropes~~ ropes or cables. You will also notice that the shaf B is not in the centre of the wheel A, but is more towards the edge, thus giving it the eccentric action, & causing it, when released, to grip the rope. I need not explain that to you,

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as you will readily see it. I purposely left question 3 till last:—How much does it cost to make a complete safety catch & fix it on a gig? That is a difficult question to answer; but Mr. Hancock advises you to write to one or more of the engineering firms mentioned below. They might not send you a complete drawing of a cage & catches, but they would be glad to let you have a tracing or a blue print if you ask for it with a price. The firms abovementioned are:—James Martin & Co., Gawler, S.A.; May Bros., Gawler; Hawke & Co, Kapunda Forewood, Down, & Co., Hindley St., Adelaide; Thompson, Castlemaine; Phoenix Foundry, Ballarat; Otis Engineering Firm, Melb. Vic.; Walker & Co, Engineers, Maryborough, Queensland;.

I am sorry I cannot give you fuller information. In this colony we have no Mines Regulation Act; but if you get yours amended you will do well to insist on the weekly test. The only real test is to cut the rope & let her go, Gallagher!

Well, Joe, I see by the first day's returns that the Socialist Party has not done much; but I can't say that I am very sorry they are left out; but I would like to see them poll a couple of thousands each. I see Jim McGowan & S.J. Law are defeated. I am very much afraid that Labour will not be represented. We have been once more fooled by the Liberals.

Never mind, we shall arrive bye & bye. In the meantime keep on believing like the Salvo lass! Kadina & Wallaroo Mines gave a very good Labor vote, considering Kirkpatrick 343, & McGregor 365 against Baker (mine director) 251, & Downer 242. Also T. Price 405 (Labor), Batchelor (L) 409. All well: hope you are the same. Yours fraternally, P.O'Grady, Kadina, South Australia! (Answered 4th May, 1901.)

Copy of my first letter to Mr. Hillman.

"High Street, Plattsburg-Wallsend, N.S.W. Ap. 5, 1901.

To the Manager, Phoenix Foundry, Ballarat, Vic.

Sir, as I am endeavouring, through the N.S.W. Colliery Employees' Federation, to induce the Minister for Mines to introduce an amended Coal Mines Regulation Bill to provide for the compulsory use of safety-catches on cages in which men ride in shafts, I am now writing to ask you to kindly send me a list of prices of your safety-catches if you have them or could make them.

I would also like you to send me a tracing of the catches, gratis, or let me know the price of a tracing or blue print. I would also be pleased to know the price of a Middleton hook which is used to prevent overwinding. Kindly reply as soon as possible, as I am anxious to get the prices without delay.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely, Josiah Cocking."

Copy of a letter from Aunt Grace Perkyns:—

"Redruth, Cornwall, Ap. 10, 1901. Dear Brother, Sister, and

18.

Family. We take pleasure in answering your welcome letter, which we received alright. I am very sorry to hear that you are not much better, but I am very glad your children live so near & are so kind to you in doing anything for you. That is much better than having strangers around you. Since I wrote to you last I received a letter from brother William, & one from brother Robert. They & their families are well. John we don't hear anything about. If you wish to have Robert's address I will send it to you. Dear Sister, poor old Susan Pope, up at Saint Day, is dead. She was the oldest in the town. Mary Warsley is still living: she lives a mile out of Falmouth. Dear Sister, I will say once more that you ought to come home for the summer & go back in the winter. It would be some change for you. They would not know you when you got back; you would be new done over.

Saint Day is greatly improved; you would hardly know the town now. And there are some mines going to work soon. We are glad to see that the mines out there are looking up: it will be better for all. The times here are just the same-- not much better yet. We can't tell when it will be better. I suppose it will change when the South African war is over, if you can tell when that will be.-- there is no sign of it yet. Dear Sister, you wanted the views of Saint Day. I went to every shop in the town, & they didn't have them; but I bought this lot of views of other towns. You have seen some of them. They are very nice. If ever I can get views of Saint Day I will send them to you. When you look at Falmouth you will think how you spent your first day you had for better or for worse. That day went away from us so quickly-- we shall never forget that day-- & we had better weather than we get lately. I don't know when we had a colder Easter: it has been bitterly rough weather here. Years ago it was all for white clothes; now we can take 2 jackets.

I should like to have your daughter's photo, & the children's, as she promised. I hope you will be better when you write next. Write as often as you like-- we are always glad to hear from you. We are very well at present. We don't know anything more, unless we tell you to kiss your husband each side of his face for me, & kiss your daughter's children for us. No more at present from your affectionate brother & sister, Walter & Grace Perkyns. Good bye. With our love to you all."

Copy of my letter to Mr. Hillman:-

"Wallsend, N.Y.S. W., June 2, 1901. To Mr. J. Hillman,

119.

Engineer, etc., Ballarat. Dear Sir, On the 5th of last April I sent a letter to the Manager of the Phoenix Foundry, Ballarat, asking him for information re cages, safety catches, safety catches, & ~~ask for the information required~~. I received a letter in reply, with all the information required, for which I hereby express my sincere thanks.

I sent the information to James Curley, the general secretary of the N.S.W. Colliery Employees' Federation, who, in company with the chairman & treasurer of the C.E.F., interviewed the Minister for Mines on the subject of introducing

a Bill to provide for the compulsory use of safety-catches on cages. The Minister professed ignorance of the matter & promised to inquire into it. There the matter rests so far

as I know. My reason for again writing to you is to ask you to send all the information possible to the Minister for Mines, & have an attractive advertisement published in the Newcastle Morning Herald as soon as possible. It would assist us in getting the catches

introduced here, & would, I feel sure, ultimately pay you handsomely. In the N.M. Herald's report of the interview previously mentioned it was stated that a Mr. Holman was the patentee of the safety cages & catches. When sending your ad. to that paper you could correct that error.

I intended to send the report to you, but have mislaid the paper. Of course you will understand, Sir, that this is a strictly confidential letter. It would not be safe to have my name mentioned in connection with this matter. I am endeavouring to push this matter on principally in the interests of the miners, & to some extent, in yours. I hope I may trust you with this little secret; & if there is anything that I can do to make your safety-catches as well & widely known as possible, I will do it. I remain sincerely,
Josiah Cocking."

Copy of Kate Reed's letter:-

"Hermitage Flat, Lithgow, Aug. 18, 1901. Dear Joe & Mary, I write these few lines to let you know that Jack is very bad with inflammation of the lungs. They took him to the hospital this morning. There is a terrible lot of sickness here. Nearly everybody is laid up with influenza or some other complaint. It is raining to-day; that may clear some of it away. If you get this, answer by return of post, & then I will be able to let you know how he is. If he gets any worse I will wire to you. This is all this time; so I must con

clude with kind love from all here to all down there.
Your loving sister, Kate Reed. Write by return of post."

Copy of telegram:—"Telegram to Josiah Cocking, Wallsend, Aug. 21, 1901. Jack died this morning. Come if you can. Signed Edward Mantle."

We replied by telegraph on the same day:-

"Both extremely grieved hear dear Jack's death. Sorry cannot come."

Following is some information concerning my Mother's relations:-

My Mother's Father was named Robert Rowe. He was the son of Robert Rowe who was the manager of the Wheal Cox mine, Land's End, Cornwall. My Grandfather, Robert Rowe, was born & reared at Saint Just, Cornwall, & married Eliza Gillard. He had a brother named Richard Rowe, who was a schoolmaster at Manchester, England, & clerk of an English church there. Another brother was named John Trezise Rowe, who was killed at St. Just when very young.

Grandfather Robert Rowe also had three sisters. One was called Betsy, who died unmarried; another sister was named Isabella Rowe, who married & died. The third sister was Eliza Rowe, who married John Trenwith, a shoemaker of Penzance. The children of John & Eliza Trenwith are:-

William John Rowe Trenwith, stationmaster at Marazion, Cornwall; Richard Trenwith, who was a Primitive Methodist minister when he was only 21 years of age; Elizabeth Trenwith, the eldest daughter, who was governess of a school at Auckland, New Zealand, at 80 pounds per year. She married a minister, & died of child-birth; & Selina Trenwith of whom nothing is known.

My Mother's Mother was named Eliza Gillard, whose Mother was Eliza Gillard, of Walkerville, a suburb of Adelaide, South Australia.

The children of my Grandfather Robert Rowe & Grandmother Eliza Rowe are: 1. Elizabeth Rowe (my Mother) who married my Father, Thomas Cocking of Redruth Highway; 2. John Trezise Rowe, who married Amelia Opie of St. Day. They afterwards lived at San Jose, California, & had only one child--a daughter named (after my Mother) Elizabeth, who married a German named Buettner of San Jose. 3. William Rowe, who was the manager of a mine at San Antonio, Chili, & died there in 1906. 4. Robert Rowe, who married Mary Andrews of Redruth, Cornwall. They lived at Crockett, California. 5. Joseph Rowe, who died of yellow fever, in Chili, at the age of 24. 6. Grace Rowe, who married Walter Perkyns, bootmaker, of Redruth, Cornwall. They only had one child-- a daughter named Elizabeth who died unmarried, at 21 years years of age. My Father's Father, who lived at Redruth

Highway, had 3 sons; 1. Thomas Cocking (my Father). 2. Stephen Cocking. 3. Josiah Cocking. Grandfather Cocking also had two daughters. 1. Mary Cocking, who died at 21 years of age. 2. Elizabeth James Cocking (called James) who owned a farm near Redruth Highway & married a Mr. Tague & died of childbirth at 21 years of age. My Grandmother Eliza Rowe (nee Gillard) had 2 brothers & five sisters. Their names are:- 1. Jane Gillard (afterwards Powell). 2. Sally Gillard (afterwards Thomas) who lived at Moonta, South Australia. 3. Grace Gillard (afterwards Mrs. Paine for Payne. of Mount Barker). 4. Mary Ann Gillard (afterwards Mrs. Cook of Kapunda). 5. Constance Gillard (afterwards Mrs. Wm. Tuckfield). 6. Joseph Gillard, who died at Moonta, S. Aus. & John Gillard who was lost on the Victorian diggings. My maternal Grandmother was the daughter of Grace Gillard who lived at Walkerville, near Adelaide, about the year 1867

My Mother's Aunt, Jane Powell, lived near her Mother (Grace Gillard) at Walkerville. Mrs. Jane Powell's sons are:- 1. Charles Powell, musician, King street, Adelaide. 2. William Powell, overseer of a station in S. Aus. Her daughters are:- 1. Leisha Jane Powell who married a lawyer named Cox, of Adelaide. 2. Grace Powell who married a butcher at Walkerville. 3. Sally Gillard.

My Mother's Aunt Grace Gillard (Mrs. Payne) had one daughter who lived near Port Adelaide in or about the year 1868. Mother's Aunt Mary Ann Gillard (Mrs. Cook of Kapunda) had six children. Their names are:- 1. Eliza. 2. Fanny. 3. Mary. 4. Joseph. 5. Courtenay.

Mother's Aunt, Constance Gillard (Mrs. Tuckfield of Kapunda) had 12 children. 1. William Tuckfield. 2. Joseph Tuckfield, a grocer of Kapunda who was well known by Rees Thomas, boot-maker of Wallsend, N.S.W. 3. Harry Tuckfield who visited my parents when my brother Jack was 3 months old (about 1864). 4. Elizabeth Tuckfield (Mrs. Harris of Moonta). 5. Leisha Jane Tuckfield. 6. Maria Tuckfield who married Mr. Taylor, the editor of "The Wallaroo Times", Wallaroo. 7. Grace Ann Tuckfield who married Mr. Cornelius near Adelaide. 8. Mrs. Trembath. The others are not known.

My Mother's Uncle, Joseph Gillard, lived at Moonta in 1875. One of his sons is named Joseph Gillard. Mother's Uncle, John Gillard, was lost on the Victorian diggings. His widow married again, & her second husband kept a public house near the Wesleyan church, North Adelaide.

Copy of Kate Reed's letter:-

" Hermitage Flat, Lithgow, Sunday, Aug. 1901.

Dear Mary Jane, I received your kind & welcome letter on Wednesday, & was glad to hear from you but sorry to hear you were not well. Dear Mary Jane, Jack was dead 6 or 7 hours before I got your letter. He died on Wednesday morning at a

72.

quarter to 5 o'clock. Ted & I were with him. I was up two nights with him in the hospital, & he was happy. When he was dying he said he knew he was going. I had Mr. Pettinger, the Primitive Methodist minister to him on Monday night. It was pneumonia he died with. He went to the hospital at dinner time on last Sunday. Ted brought him straight home after he died. Nell is up. She came up for the funeral I was very sorry you could not come. I would have been pleased if you could have seen the last of him. I will send you the "Mercury" on Tuesday with the death in. He had a lot of nice wreaths. The Coursing Club sent to Sydney for a wreath to Searle's; it was made of all white: it was white camellias, lily of the valley, snow drops, & a little bit of wild flower & maiden hair fern.

The miners from the Hermitage walked; also the members of the Workmen's Club. There is a terrible lot of deaths here. There are 2 funerals to-day, & it is raining very hard. The children are all well. This is all the news this time, so I must conclude with kind love from all here to all down there, & accept the same yourself from your ever-loving sister, Kate. He often got the pen & ink & said he would write to poor Joe, & then he would put it away again; but he thought none the less of him. I will now close, dear Mary Jane, with a sad heart. Your loving sister Kate."

Copy of Kate Reed's letter:-

"Hermitage Flat, Lithgow, Aug. 28, 1901.

Dear Mary Jane & Joe, I received your kind letter yesterday & was glad to hear from you. I had no reason that I did not send you word, for I would have been too happy to have had both of you here, but I had no warning myself. Both the doctor & the matron said he was getting better till Tuesday night about 9 o'clock, & it was then too late to send a telegram; & you would not have been there in time, for Jack died at a quarter to five on the Wednesday morning. It was one in the morning when I sent for Ted. Jack was sensible. He did not leave any message nor ask for any of the children, but he asked where Pearl was. I asked him your address. I thought you would not get the first letter I wrote. He tried to tell me, but I could not understand what he said. I think he knew he was dying on the Sunday on the Sunday, for he seemed so quiet & resigned.

I have not got my memory cards yet, but I will get some soon. I am not going to service: I could not leave the children. I have a young man staying with me. He has been boarding with me for a couple of months, & Jack asked him to stay on. He took Jack to the hospital & helped Ted to bring him home. With a bit of washing & sewing I will get in I think I will get on.

We are not too bad off for clothes & food; we can get plenty, but have no money. I drew £ 3-12-0 on Saturday, but it was the last Jack earned. I do not know what the funeral expenses are yet; but they have promised to gather enough at the Workmen's Club to pay for it, & any that is over is to erect a headstone over the grave. I am sorry for Mary Jane; but tell her to keep up for her own sake.

I think I will get on all right, for if I can get the work I will do it. The ground is covered with snow. There are 2 funerals to-day, & old Blackford was buried yesterday. I am sending you the "Lithgow Mercury", so you will see all the news. I buried Jack on his Mother: I thought he would like to be buried with her if he could have his wish. If you come up, or if I get the chance of anybody going down, I will give you something belonging to him. It has been raining ever since he was buried. I have not been out to the cemetery since. If it is fine on Sunday Kate & I are going out. Jack was just like himself--never altered a bit.

I hope little Josiah is all right & getting on splendidly. This is all the news this time, so I will conclude with love from all up here to all friends down there, & accept the same for yourselves from your ever-loving Sister, Kate Reed. I forgot to tell you that Jack was not in any lodge or anything. He let his lodge run out during the strike."

Copy of Kate Reed's letter to Mum:-- Sept. 18, 1901.

" Dear Mary Jane, I received your kind & welcome letter, & was sorry to hear that you had been so ill. You say Jack's death was a shock to you, but what is it to me? I feel really ill sometimes. We have plenty to eat, thank God, so don't worry yourself, for the present, to send any money, for you are nearly as bad off as myself with the sickness you have had: but later on you may be able to help me.

I can get more work than I can do. I have the cooking to do at home for the Workmen's Club social. Either Mother or Kate Doig reads the letters, so you need not be afraid of anybody else seeing them.

I am getting some memory cards done. I am expecting them home any day. I will send you one next time I write. I hope Joe's relations will soon be better. It is getting warm weather here now. I am getting Jack's photo enlarged. Write as soon as you can, for I like to hear from you. Love from all here to all there, from your ever-loving Sister, Kate Reed. x Kiss for the baby. I hope Joe is well."

Copy of Will Trezise's letter:--

" Crystal Street, Broken Hill, Nov. 12, 1901.

Dear Joe & Mrs. Cocking, It is with pleasure I write you these few lines in answer to your kind & welcome letter dated 27/10/ 1901. We were very glad to hear from you & to know you are getting on well. We have been wondering what had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 102

Wed. Jan. 1, 1902. New Year's Day. There is a regatta at Newcastle to-day, but we are staying at home. I am making a copying camera of powder boxes to take cabinet photos from cabinets, or to enlarge from $\frac{1}{4}$ plate to cabinet size.

Thur. Jan. 2, 1902. My mate, Jim Pitchford, & I have got cavilled to an 8 yard bord on the right hand side, past the furnace, in the furnace heading in Elermore Vale pit. We started to work in the bord on Monday before Christmas eve, but only worked that day and the next, & did not work again until last Monday, on account of the holidays. I have lent Jim Pitchford "Merrie England", by Robert Blatchford. Bill Bodenham has my "Caesar's Column". Jinny, Josey, & I went to Newcastle on Boxing Day & spent a few hours on the beach. There were thousands of people there, as it was a splendid day. I got a coal-ticket to-day. Will Trezise's address is Crystal Street, north Broken Hill.

Fri. Jan. 3, 1902. Jim & I worked until 10 a.m. to-day, when we were told to stop, as the winding engine was broken. We had only filled 3 skips. We had to walk out of the mine. I don't know what is wrong with the engine. I have finished making my copying camera. Last night I went down to the Wallsend School of Arts to see & hear a lantern lecture on, "The Boer War & The Money Question", by Mrs. J.J. Barrington, of 72 Saint John's Road, Forest Lodge, Sydney. She is the widow of captain Barrington who was killed in the South African war. Her brother was also killed there through the stupidity of an officer. I saw Mrs. Barrington & a girl in the hall upstairs. They had the lantern sheet up & the lantern ready, but, besides myself, there was no one present to hear the lecture. I offered to give her some negatives of the houses of the mine managers & the hovels of the poor, which I had taken before Jinny & I went to Kadina. I offered to give her those if she would have 2 lantern slides made from each negative, & send 1 slide from each negative to me. Mrs. Barrington said that the lantern did not belong to her, but to the "Labour Exchange Association". She said she would take the negatives to Sydney & see if the Association would agree to my proposal. I then went home to get the negatives, & she went to the Plattsburg park, near the post office, to address the people in the street. Jinny was at Mother's house, so I got into our house through the spare room window, & got 14 negatives, put them into 2 boxes, & took them to the park, where I met the girl & Mrs. Barrington & gave her the negatives. She said she had spoken to a large crowd, & had invited them up to see her pictures, & hear her lecture, for nothing, & they went part of the way up but turned back. I gave her my name &

& address, & she gave me her card. She is to speak at Adams-town to-night. I took my boots & Jose's to Rees Thomas' to be repaired, & got a pair of new shoes for Jose.

Jack & Charley are not cavilled out at the Co-operative colliery, but 40 miners, including some of the original scabs, were cavilled out. There is a union at the Co-op. again now.

Jack Wright is the delegate, Ben Rees secretary, Toomey is the chairman, & Dave Clough, treasurer. Wright is cavilled out.

This cavilling is regarded by the miners as one of Jimmy Barr's dodges to smash the newly-formed union. Jack Bower is the new District President of the Colliery Employees' Federation. He is a fakir. Peter Bowling was second in the balloting.

Brother Jack's lad, Bert, started to walk again to-day after being dangerously ill about 6 months, a part of which was spent in the Wallsend hospital. Bert fractured his skull by falling on a kerbstone. Doctor Joseph Stapleton, who was attending Bert, was found dead on the road to West Wallsend a while ago.

Sat. Jan. 4, 1902. There was only one bolt broken in the engine at Maddison's pit yesterday, so we worked again to-day. We had only 1 skip up yesterday. To-day ends the fortnight for the pay. Jim worked 5½ days, & I worked 6¼ for next pay. Eva Gibson's daughter, Alice, was kicked in the forehead to-day by a Chinese dealer's horse, & is in a very critical condition. Adam Cook, old Bob Maddison, & nine others, were made Justices of the Peace yesterday.

Sun. Jan. 5, 1902. Young Jim Robinson of Maitland (May's brother) & his wife Mary & their 2 boys & 2 girls, came to see us to-day. They are living with Eva Gibson & Jack until Jim can get a house. Jim intends to build a house for himself on the Wallsend Company's land; & I promised to help him.

I have read 188 books & pamphlets from the first of Jan., 1887 to the last of Dec. 1901. The number read in each year is as follows:-In 1887, 25; in '88, 14; in '89, 3; in 90, 8; 91, 13; in '92, 17; in '93, 16; in '94, 9; in 95, 13; '96, 16; '97 6; in '98, 6; in '99, 12; in 1900, 7; & in 1901, 23. I have had more leisure to read during the last year than I have had for several years before. By looking over my pay-envelopes for ~~1901~~ 1901 I find that I have got about 111 pounds for the year, which averaged about £ 4-8-0 per fortnight, or £ 2-4-0 per week. This amount is clear of expenses. I worked nearly full time for the year. I finished reading Leo Tolstoy's "Money" to-day; also his pamphlet on "Man & Woman"; their respective Functions". Likewis his, "The Mother". Cloudy.

Mon. Jan. 6, 1902. Maddison's pit worked to-day, but Wallsend was idle. Jinny & I took Jose in the pram to Jack Gibson's

house this evening to see little Alice. She was in bed & old Mrs. Gibson & Mother attending to her. Poor Alice is very low indeed; her left eye is blackened, & she is bruised in other places. The poor child lay there twitching & moaning, probably in great pain. Ethel came down from Maitland with her son Jimmy. She had tea with us, & then went to Jack Gibson's place. She returned to Maitland to-night. Jim Robinson (her brother) has also gone up. Jinny & I went to Mother's place & stayed reading the Advocate until 9 p.m. when Charley came home from the Co-op. colliery. Old Bob Maddison was in the pit to-day & Jim Pitchford & I bought a shilling ticket for hospital sports on the Wallsend racecourse on the 11th of this month. I posted "The Worker" to Bob Nicholls of Howe street, Lambton, & I posted a bill from Davies & Cannington, printers, to W.J. Horne, grocer, Wallsend, for 8/- for printing 400 tickets for the Elermore Vale picnic. I have begun to read a pamphlet on Father Matthew, the great Irish temperance advocate.

Tues. Jan. 7, 1902. Poor little Alice Gibson died this morning at 5-30, just after Jinny left the house. Alice was 1 year & 5 months old. The funeral will be at 4 p.m. to-morrow. She will be buried in the new Wallsend cemetery by the Salvation Army, as her parents, Eva & Jack, are members of that organisation. We went & saw Alice again this evening. She looks as white as marble, except around her left eye, & her forehead above it, where she is blue-black.

Eva's mother (old Mrs. Robinson) & her daughter Violet came with her. Violet is still suffering with granulated eyelids. Maddison's pit worked again to-day, & Jim & I filled 12 skips. We have only 75 skips up for next pay. Bill Bodenham has read "Caesar's Column", & will lend it to Jack Wright, the delegate of the Co-op. miners union. Bill has also read & returned "The Fabian Essays On Socialism". I will now lend him "The Land Question." Also "An Appeal To The Young", & "What Socialism Means". We got a letter & Jack Reed's necktie from Kate Reed this afternoon.

Wed. Jan. 8, 1902. I went in front shift this morning so that I could come out early & attend the funeral of little Alice Gibson. The funeral procession was fairly large, but there was no hearse & no vehicles. Girls carried the coffin, which was pure white. She was buried in the Salvation Army portion of the new cemetery. The captain spoke first, & 2 girls sang "Shall We Gather At The River". Mrs. Roberts said a few words, & Maggie Ferguson also spoke. The captain then read from Revelations, & another hymn was sung. When it was over I went to dear little Bobby's grave & placed some shells on it & pulled some grass off it. Jack, Bob, May, Ethel. Violet, Frank, & old Jim

6 a. 77.

Robinson were at Alice's grave. Also old Mr. Gibson & Peter Davidson. I returned to Jack Gibson's house with brother Jack & had tea with several others. Old Mrs. Gibson was attending at the table. Old Mrs. Robinson was also there. After tea I went with brother Bob to see Mother, but we could only stay a few minutes, as Bob wanted to catch the tram to go to West Maitland again, where he is working as a builder's labourer with Old Jim Robinson, his father-in-law. Bob came over with me, got a chisel & left in a hurry.

I lent Bill Bodenhan the books I mentioned on Tuesday. I found Sam Rees' lost pick in our bord to-day.

Thur. Jan. 9, 1902. We filled 14 skips to day, & had 11 up yesterday. I received a "Clarion" from Pat O'Grady; also "Truth" from Bob Nicholls, of Lambton. Jinny is all right again to-day. I shifted a pile of stones this evening.

Fri. Jan. 10, 1902. We finished our bord to day, & shall have to start a new one next to Charlie Fretwell & Bill Parkerson, our crossmates. It is a very bad place, so we have to start under the tops. Jim Pitchford & I shifted our tools to-day. We filled 13 & left 2 skipfuls of coal. The roof is very heavy, & the timber was creaking a good deal. I am glad the bord is stopped, for the roof is very dangerous. We were paid to-day, & my share, for $6\frac{1}{2}$ days was 49/-. Jim's share was 40/10 for $5\frac{1}{2}$ days. Our powder bill at W.W. Johnson's was 15/-. I got 2 bags at Gunn's, the baker, & my boots at Rees Thomas' shop. Publican Jack Hill, J.P. started to work in Maddison's Elermore Vale pit this week.

Sat. Jan. 11, 1902. This is Pay Saturday. I have been making my dark room light tight to-day, but it is not right yet. I owe Albert Mannefield 1/6 for papers. We gave up the "Mines' Advocate".

Sun. Jan. 12, 1902. I have started to read "Trade Unionism Old and New", by G. Howell, M.P. It belongs to Bob. Jim & Mrs. Robinson & their 4 children came up to our house this afternoon while I was away reading to Mother, & they came with Jinny to see Mother, as they had not been introduced to her before. Jim played a few tunes on the organ just before they left. He is a good player & has played in churches in the Maitland district. We all came back to our place for tea. A thunderstorm passed over, & they stayed until 9 p.m.

Mon. Jan 13, 1902. I was front shift this morning. I made r

shot

78.

ready for a ~~start~~ on the bottom by the time that Jim came in. I missed the first 2 skips, but filled 2 extra in the old bord after dinner. There are working in our heading, Harry Abel, Jack Marshall, Jack Mason, Harry Hughes, Charles Fretwell, & Bill Parkenson. Jim & I filled 13 skips by the time I left (3 p.m.). We had 14 skips up for Saturday. Jinny bought Jose a new tin engine for 1/7 to-day at Kirk's shop. I expected to go out with young Jim Robinson this evening to select a site on which to build his proposed new house, but he has not come. "The People & Collectivist" came to-day.

Tues. Jan 14, 1902. We worked & filled 14 skips.

Wed. Jan. 15, 1902. Our bord was working very much to-day, & we thought the roof would fall in, but it settled down on the timber. We are under the big tops now & will get 1/6 $\frac{2}{3}$ per skip. This evening I paid 13/2 rent to Tom Abel's girl. I afterwards went to the big Methodist Mission tent & heard rev. Bavin preach on Belshazzar, who was "weighed in the balances & found wanting". One or 2 went up for conversion. The tent, which is as big as an ordinary circus tent, is pitched on a vacant bit of land near the Co-op. bakehouse. Bavin is a good speaker, but, like most other parsons, he doesn't say one word in denunciation of the present abominable social system under which eight tenths of the people have to live in poverty & slavery to keep the rest in wealth & idleness.

Thur. Jan. 16, 1902. We worked again to-day. Bob has sent some empty bottles from West Maitland to the Wallsend goods shed for me, but I forgot to go for them. I received 2 "Clarions" from Pat O'Grady to-day.

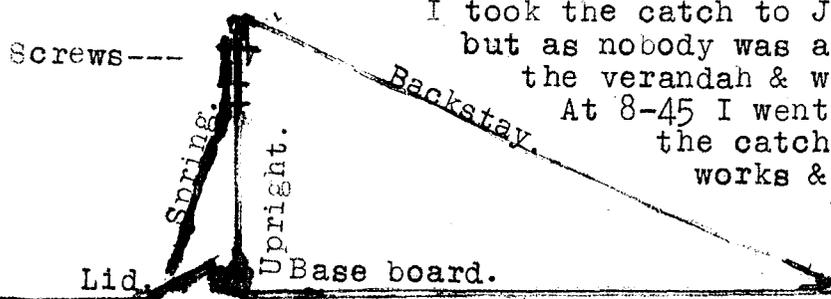
Fri. Jan. 17, 1902. We had 16 tokens up this morning. We filled 16 skips. Our miners' lodge met this evening in Young's hall. After the balance sheet was read & other business had been dealt with I moved, That in future all arrangements made with the manager be put in writing". Carried. I also moved, That the District Officers be instructed to again interview the Minister for Mines re the necessity for amending the Coal Mines Regulation Act to provide for the compulsory use of safety catches on cages, in accordance with the Delegate Board Minute of March, 1901 which was unanimously adopted by the Colliery Employees' Federation". The motion was seconded by Sam Rees & carried. Jack Troy, who has been working on the screen at Maddison colliery, has lately been discharged for being too slow. He was at the meeting, & George Johnson stated his case for him. It was resolved to bring his case before Maddison when the deputation interviews him to-

morrow night. George Johnson, the secretary of the Elermore Vale Lodge has received 14 days notice, verbally, from old Bob Maddison for alleged interference with old Joe Smith, the deputy. Our turn was laid last night. Very hot weather: temp. 104 deg. Fah.

Sat. Jan. 18, 1902. Charlie Fretwell had a shift off to go to Lake Macquarie, so I took his tokens in for his mate. We had 17 skips up this morning.

Sun. Jan. 19, 1902. We filled 15 skips to-day. I posted the Sydney "Worker" to Bob Nicholls. Howe street, Lambton. I made a safety catch for Jim Pitchford's tank lid this evening. The catch is to prevent children from opening the lid of the tank & falling in. It consists of a base board 20 inches long, 7 inches wide, & one inch thick. On this is nailed an upright piece of wood a foot long, & 3 inches wide & 3 inches thick. This is nailed flush with the end of the base board. On this upright stick there is nailed a board or batten three inches wide & one inch thick. This must reach from the top of the upright piece to the other end of the base-board. When completed the structure will be a triangle. On the outside of the upright piece of wood a bit of springy steel, such as a bed-lath, is screwed to the top end of the vertical wood & bent outwards about an inch as shown in the sketch below. The complete arrangement is to be so placed ~~kkak~~ on the cover of a well or tank that the lid, in shutting down, presses the bottom end of the batten against the upright wood & comes to rest just below the spring, which will then fly back to its original position. To lift the lid it will therefore be necessary to press back the spring with one hand & pull the lid with the other; an operation which a small child could not perform. In this lies its safety, & in the fact that the spring works automatically & is always set.

I took the catch to Jim Pitchford's house, but as nobody was at home I put it on the verandah & went to Mother's place. At 8-45 I went up again & gave Jim the catch & showed him how it works & how to fix it on the tank.



Well or tank.

A. 90.

Jinny & I then went home. We have 54 skips up for next pay.

Tues. Jan. 21, 1902. We worked again to-day. We got a letter from Bob, & just as I was reading it he walked in. He came from Maitland to see about us leaving his house in Mary st. next Saturday. Mother & Charlie are getting their furniture shifted out of Jack's house & into the house next door which belongs to Mr. Thompson, the poultry expert. I received the Truth from Bob Nicholls, & the "People & Collectivist" from Sydney. Hot weather.

Wed. Jan. 22, 1902. We filled 14 skips to-day. We have started to cut up to the full height of the coal seam. Jack & May shifted their furniture to-day into the house that Mother has just left. Mrs. Pond has taken Jack's shop for 8/6 a week. The air is full of fine dust to-day & the weather is very hot.

Sun, Feb. 2, I have neglected to write up my diary since the 22nd of Jan. In the interval Jinny & I have shifted into Thompson's house with Mother & Charley. Last Monday was a public holiday for the 26th, but the visitors to the Lake got wet, as rain fell in torrents & continued nearly all day. We stayed at home, & Charley & I fixed up the gates. Last Wednesday the board where Jim Pitchford & I worked fell in with very little warning. Jack Maddison & Joe Smith came in & Jack told us to put the place right as he had no one else to do it. So we timbered it with 9 feet props & a slab. We asked old Bob Maddison yesterday if he would pay us something extra for what we have lost. He said he would not pay anyone for blowing the timber out & letting the place in. I told him that the shot was holed on the canch. We got no satisfaction from the brute, for he walked away. There was a special meeting of our Elermore Vale miners last night to receive the deputation's report re Jack Troy's case. Troy was discharged for being too slow on the screen. The deputation reported that Maddison would not discuss Troy's case, so he had drawn his money, & was therefore not connected with the colliery. Re George Johnson the secretary, who got 14 days notice for alleged interference with old Joe Smith the deputy, the deputation reported that they had got him reinstated. I mentioned our case, but after a little discussion we decided to let the matter drop until we see whether we shall get any extra payment next pay. I gave Sam Rees some copies of the "New York People" for Dan Rees. I attended a meeting of the subscribers to the Wallsend District Hospital last Wednesday night. Dave Duncanson & I nominated Dan Rees for committee man for the hospital. Alex. Ross was re-elected president of the hospital. He is going away for a six months trip to England. I hope he never returns. Bob has been unable to get work here, so he

intends to return to Maitland to work with his father-in-law, old Jim Robinson, at carpentering & building. I received "The Plain Dealer" from Pat O'Grady yesterday. This has been a hot day. I have been reading copies of the New York People. I posted some "Clarions" to Mick O'Grady, 64 Tope st, South Melbourne. I have finished reading "Trades Unionism New & Old" by G. Howell, M.P. Britain. 235 pages.

Mon. Feb. 3, 1902. We filled 10 skips to-day. Both of us went in front snift. We had another fall of roof this morning.

Tues. Feb. 4, 1902. No work for Maddison's colliery to-day. ✓ Jim Pitchford is drawing out timber in the pit. Jinny & Motner quarrelled this afternoon, & we went up to Peter Bowling's house to see about getting rooms. We shifted into Jack's place next door late at night after I had attended a special meeting of our union. Jack Troy's case was discussed, & we resolved send a deputation to old Bob Maddison to try to get Troy reinstated. Bill Bodenham shifted into Hugh Young's house to-day.

Wed. Feb. 5, 1902. Maddison's pit is idle again to-day, but Jim Pitchford is working. I helped brother Jack to sow some potatoes this morning. I finished reading the New York Peoples to-night. I intend to give them to Dan Rees. There was a special committee meeting of our union to meet & confer with the 3 district officers re pillar prices & the five eights dispute at Maddisons.

Thur. Feb. 6, 1902. Elermore Vale colliery is idle again. Cecil posted the Sydney Worker to Bob Nicholls, Lambton, this morning. Hot weather. Co-op. is also idle. Bob is still out of work, & it seems impossible to find a brother of the earth to give him leave to toil. I returned the book by Howell on "Trades Unionism New & Old". I have voted for Dave Broadfoot, Tom Bower, Harry Tyldesley, Billy Timmins, Bob Hunter, D.W. Jones, Henry Morgan, Dan Rees, junior, & Bill McIlroy, to be the Committee of Management for the Wallsend hospital. The other candidates for the same position are Micky Moran, H.T. Rogers, Henry Williams, Billy Brennan, Bob Reay, I wrote a letter to Harry Toll, Smedmore, & thanked him for sending me some copies of the New York Weekly People. I wrote a letter this afternoon to Mrs. J.J. Barrington, 72, St. John's Road, Forest Lodge, Sydney re the negatives I lent her on the third of January.

Fri. Feb. 7, 1902. No work for Maddison's pit. I received a letter & 6 penny stamps from Mrs. E. Barrington, 58 George St. We was st. Our pay to-day was £ 4-8-2½ each, for 10 days work, after all expenses were paid. The union dues were 1/- per man & 2½ % , or 6d in the pound. Our blasting powder cost 12/9.

82

I gave Dan Rees the rest of the New York Peoples this evening, & I gave Bill Bodenham the Sydney People. I wrote another letter of 8 pages to Mrs. E. Barrington, & posted it on the way to the pay-office. I also posted a letter to Harry Toll, & a copy of "Good Health" to Pat O'Grady. I received a copy of the "Adelaide Critic" & a letter from Pat this afternoon. Mrs. Reece, wife of Jenkin Reece died 2 days ago after being ill 7 weeks. She was Jenkin's second wife.

Sat. Feb. 8, 1902. This morning Jack, me, Jinny, Jose, Cecil, & Willie out to Speers' Point to see the regatta which was postponed a fortnight ago on account of the rain. There was a great number of people there with horses & carts. All along the shore there were tents & boats. There were also several refreshment stalls & one beer booth; also 2 lottery tables. Three little steamers were moving about all day. The weather was splendid but our horse was very troublesome on the way out & back, & we had to walk up most of the hills. May took Grace & Bertie to Maitland this morning.

Sun. Feb. 9, 1902. I started to read a little book entitled "Water-weeds And Sunbeams", which belongs to Jack. In the evening Jinny & I took Josie down to Jim & Mary Robinson's place in Downey's Lane, near Spargo's brick works. They are living in a large stable which is divided into 2 rooms by a partition of oilcloth. They have a gas stove to serve in place of a fire, as there is no chimney in the stable. Fine weather.

Mon. Feb. 10, 1902. Jim & I worked again to-day. I was too late to get down in the cage before 7 a.m., so I had to wait until 7-30. We filled 12 skips. Jim left work at 3 p.m. & I worked until 3-30. I ~~attended a meeting of the subscribers of the Wallsend hospital this evening~~ should have attended a meeting of the subscribers of the Wallsend hospital, but I was late for that too through Jack having an attack of indigestion. I received a letter & 3 copies of the New York Weekly People from Harry Toll, Smedmore, to-day. Fine weather.

Tues. Feb. 11, 1902. We worked & filled 9 skips of coal. Our roof came down again this afternoon. Warm weather.

Wed. Feb. 12, 1902. There was work for Maddison's pit to-day, but we had only filled one skip when Jack Maddison sent Dave Jones, Sam Wells, & young Nash home because they refused to take their horses in. So all the miners except Jim Pitchford & Charlie Fretwell came out. Those 2 were employed in drawing props & timber out of bords that were finished. I wrote a letter to Jim Moroney, who is now the editor of "The People", Sydney, & enclosed 1/- in stamps.

72 ▲ 83.

Sun. Feb. 23, 1902. Last Monday Jinny went out to Alex Ross's mansion & got permission from Ross for me to build a house on the Newcastle Wallsend Company's estate. Jack pointed out a suitable site, next to Bill Smurthwaite's house, in High street & Hill street, & we decided to build on it. Jinny also arranged with Mr. David Millar about paying him for groceries. The same evening, after I came home from the pit, I carried some fence posts from Bob's house in Mary Street, & we made a fence around an old tank near the site of the house, & threw out a lot of ashes. The old tank is only 7 feet in diameter, but we marked it out to 12 feet across. Jack, Bob, Jim Pettigrew, & I have worked at the tank every evening since we started. Yesterday being Pay Saturday, Jack, Jim Pettigrew, & I worked there nearly all day. There was a sham fight around Goat Hill yesterday afternoon. My share of our pay last Friday was one pound 19/-. We have now sunk, by means of powder, to a depth of 9 feet 6 inches, & will not go deeper. We shall probably finish in another week. I received copies of the "Tocsin" & the "Clarion" from Pat O'Grady last Friday. I have finished reading "Water Weeds and Sunbeams", 96 pages by C. Brent. Jim Robinson & Mary have shifted over to Brookstown.

Sun. Mar. 2, 1902. Last Wednesday Bob, Jack, & Jim Pettigrew finished sinking the tank for us. Wednesday was a Day of Humiliation & Prayer for rain. On Thursday Jack, Bob, & Charley brought in 4 logs from the bush, & put 3 of them on the tank & covered it all over with slabs that cost us 8/-. I have worked in the pit every day this week, except yesterday, & got Mrs. Gillespie's carter to bring in an ironbark log to cut up for pillars to rest the house on. We found a log 26 feet long & 14 inches thick, which we sawed in two & put the big end into the dray & brought it to the tank. Maddison has had a survey made to fix on a spot to sink an air-shaft to ventilate the Elermore colliery, & the spot selected is in High street, a few yards from where our house is to be built. Jack went to Breckenridge, timber merchant, Newcastle, yesterday & paid £ 4-10-0 for 91 sawn slabs 9 x 1½ inches, & average 7ft. 9 inches long, of hardwood. I withdrew £1-14-0 from the post office savings bank on Friday. Jack also withdrew £ 4-6-0 from the bank for us. I received the "Tocsin" from Pat O'Grady yesterday, & on Friday we received a photo of Pat & his family. I borrowed £ 3-10-0 from Bob this morning. Bill Bodenham returned "The Land Question" "What Socialism Means", & "An Appeal To the Young", on Friday. No rain has fallen since the day of prayer, & the weather is as dry as ever. Little or no rain has fallen in the country for months past. Bob went to Minmi yesterday & got work there. He is to start on the surface next Monday, but will get a start on the coal when the miners cavil.

78 4. 84.

Sun. Mar. 9, 1902. Maddison's pit worked last monday, & was idle until Friday. Last tuesday Breckenridge sent up all of the timber for the house, except the slabs. He also sent the galvanised iron and 2 windows, & a door. I got widow Gillespie's carter, Bill Lee of Lambton, & 2 horses & dray, & we carted the whole lot in three loads, from the goods shed. There were a couple of light showers of rain when we were loading. The weight of the building material was 2 tons, 15 cwt. & the freight was 8/4. Jack stowed the timber in piles at his place in High street. On thursday Jack was at work, & I sawed some battens into strips. When he came home we marked out the sole plates for the house. Last friday I was in the pit. Jim Pitchford brought my pay, which was £ 4-17-6 for 10 days. The pay included 10/- consideration for our roof coming down in the pit. Jack & I worked at the timber on friday evening, & I morticed some holes in the sole-plates. On saturday we got up very early & worked at the timber again. At noon I got a letter from Breckenridge saying that the slabs had been sent, so we went to the goods shed & paid 4/10 freight on the slabs, which weighed 2 tons 3 cwts. Jinny got Gillespie's team sent to us, & we threw the 40 slabs off the truck, & carted them up to Jack's house in 2 loads. After dinner we went on carpentering. I got my sharp saw from Jack Traynor on friday. He charged 1/- for sharpening the saw. I received a letter from Dave McNeil yesterday asking me to join an Economics Class at West Wallsend.

Mon. Mar. 10, 1902. I worked single to-day, as Jim was at Toronto playing in the Wallsend -Plattsburg Brass Band at the Railway Employees' picnic. Jack went to Newcastle in the evening & paid Breckenridge a pound for the timber. Cecil is staying out to-night. The benefit concert for Mr. Logan, of Wallsend, is on to-night. Jack & I worked at the new house.

Tues. Mar. 11, 1902. No work in the pit again. Rain fell for 90 minutes this morning, & our new tank was half filled with water. Jack & I worked at the house this evening & cut 2 slabs. I wrote a letter to David McNeill, junior, West Wallsend, this evening. I lent Bill Bodenham "A Criticism of "Progress & Poverty", the "Great Problems of Great Towns", and a couple of other books.

Sun. Mar. 16, 1902 Maddison's pit was idle on wednesday & thursday, but worked on friday. Saturday was an idle day for all of the collieries on account of the combined miners' picnic at Maitland. Jack & I were up early yesterday & started at the new house. Later Jinny & May carried a lot of heavy hardwood slabs to the top of the hill near Liz Jane's fence, & I carried them from there to the house. We also carried the 29 sheets of iron. Jack & I put the rafters on, & Jack put the battens on, & put

4. 85
the slabs up to make the walls. Jack, & Jim Pettigrew put the roof on, except one sheet which was not sent from Newcastle. Jack, May, Jinny, Josie, & Willy, rode up to the hospital this afternoon & saw Bertie, who is coming on well. Mrs. Conn is in the hospital ~~is there~~ too, in a very bad condition, & is not expected to live. I took her photo a few years ago. I am very sore & tired to-day, & have been reading the N.Y. Weekly People nearly all day. The weather yesterday & to-day has been very hot.

Mon. Mar. 17, 1902. Maddison's pit worked half a day. I carried flooring boards up to the new house & helped Jack to put them down. Jinny also helped with the boards.

Sun. Ap. 20, 1902. Since my last entry I have been too busy to write my diary. My time has been taken up with work in the pit & about the new house. We shifted into our new house on the thursday after last Easter Monday. Since then I have had 2 pays; the first was £ 4-4-0, & the last was £ 4-2-6 clear of expenses. We were cavilled to number 6 pillar for this quarter, & our crossmates, Bill Parkerson & Charlie Fretwell, were cavilled to a pillar beside ours. We all decided to work co-operatively, as the top pillar was nearly done, & the bottom one had to be taken a long way down. The bottom pillar is wet. It is adjoining the old wall send pit workings. I lost one day last week through illness brought on by working in water. Poor Mrs. Conn has died. Old Gleghorn, who was a drunkard & lived in Macquarie street almost opposite to the Catholic church, died suddenly last week. He has left all of his money to Oswald Gleghorn Steel, the baker. I have taken our grate out & had it repaired at Dave Renfrew's smithy, & I built it in again. I also built in an oil drum to serve as an oven, & I have built a hearth of bricks & stones. Yesterday I used up nearly all of the zinc strips we have, & tightened up the back wall of the kitchen. I returned Danny Mills' trowel & Harry Jones's level. Last Sunday I wrote a letter to Pat O'Grady, Kadina. Last friday night George Smurthwaite was arrested on a charge of having criminally assaulted Streaker Smith's daughter. Jinny was very ill all last week with severe headache, etc., but she is better to-day. Last wednesday's "Advocate" contains a report of a deputation to Kidd, the minister for mines re the compulsory introduction of safety-catches in mines. The members of the deputation were Jack Bower the president of the Colliery Employees' Federation, Mat Charlton treasurer, & Jimmy Curley secretary; also Alf Edden, M.P., Jack Estell, M.P., & Arthur Griffiths, M.P.

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Thur. Ap. 24, 1902. I was at home all day yesterday & tuesday, as there was no work for Maddison's pit. I went in front shift on Monday to attend the funeral of Smurthwaite's baby. The funeral procession was a large one. The rev. Yarrington, C. of England minister read the burial service. Young George Smurthwaite has been tried in the Wallsend police court, & has to be tried at the next session of the Supreme Court. He is out on bail. Last Monday we received 2 photos from Emily Matthews, Kadina, S.A. Yesterday I made a cupboard in the bedroom to put clothes in. Jack & May have brought Bertie home from the Wallsend hospital at the request of a doctor, but Bertie's head is not right yet, & he will have to return to the hospital. Last night I finished reading "The Throne Of David", by Ingraham. Last Monday Bill Bodenham returned the pamphlets I lent him. Liz Jane is ill in bed.

Fri. May 2, 1902. This is a Bank Holiday. Maddison's slaves were paid yesterday instead of to-day. We worked to-day. Jim & Charley Fretwell went up at 11-30 a.m. My pay yesterday for 11 days' work £ 5-8-9 clear. I promised to lend Bill Richmond the book called "Merrie England". Rainy weather.

Sat. May 3 1902. I started to make a sliding lid for our tank this morning, but had to leave in a hurry to catch the 12 tram for Newcastle. I paid Breckenridge £ 2 off the amount owed for timber. I paid Miller's ~~bill~~ bill. At the Market I heard 3 tunes played on Joe West's phonograph, & bought a copy of the Christmas issue of "Black & White" for 3d. At Fairless' I bought a copy of "Everybody's Guide to Carpentry", for 6d. Returned at 5 p.m. Rainy. Little Grace Cocking is ill with measles.

Sun. May 4, 1902. To-day I wrote a 12 page letter to Aunt Grace & Uncle Walter Perkyms, Redruth, Cornwall. I finished reading "Everybody's Guide to Carpentry". Jinny paid Bob 5/- yesterday off the amount borrowed, which makes 10/- repaid. Bal. £ 3.

Mon. May 12, 1902. Yesterday was my birthday. I was 35 years of age, as I was born at Kadina, S.Aus., on the 11th of May 1867. I wrote part of a letter to Senator Hugh de Largie yesterday. Bob came up this afternoon, & Jim Robinson this evening. Last Thursday's "Newcastle Herald" published this:-
" Safety Catches. A reply has been received by Mr. Alfred Edden, M.P. from the Mines Dept. in regard to the question brought before the Minister of Mines as to the desirability of applying safety catches to cages in mines. The Under Secretary states " The miners in the Newcastle District have represented to this department that it is highly important that the use of safety catches on cages should be compulsory in all coal mines, & have urged that legislation should be framed to give effect to

their views. It has been ascertained beyond doubt, however, that there is great divergence of opinion amongst the general body of mining men on the question of the value of safety catches & it is therefore desirable that the views of the representatives of each branch of the coal mining industry should be made known before the Secretary for Mines would be warranted in taking decisive measures to comply with the wishes of the Newcastle miners. I am therefore desired to say that the Minister would be glad if a conference could be arranged to take place between representatives of the coalminers on the one side, & of the colliery owners & managers on the other. Every facility would be given by the department in arranging such a meeting, & the services of the professional officers of the branch concerned would be at the disposal of the conference."

I finished reading "The Facts About The Transvaal" yesterday.

Mon. May 12, 1902. Bill Parkerson had to wheel to-day, so there were only 3 of us in the pillars. Jim & Charlie stayed in until 2 p.m. when we had filled 24 skips. I filled 2 more and went home. Jinny went to Mary Robinson's place to-day. I finished wheeling away the dirt that we threw out of the tank. This more I wrote some more of my letter to de. Largie.

Sun. May 18, 1902. This morning I finished my letter to senator Hugh de Largie, which consists of 16 pages. We were paid last Thursday instead of Friday on account of a bank holiday. My share of the pay for 8 days was £ 4-2-6 clear. We have worked 4 ½ days, so far, for next pay. Jim Pitchford & I finished our pillar on wednesday, & worked with Charlie & Bill in their pillar on friday. Joe Smith & Dick Maddison then pulled the rails up. I borrowed "The Life Of St. Paul" from Bob on thursday evening. It is a good book. Jack Osborn brought us a load of coal last wednesday. We paid off the balance of £ 2-2-6 owed for Singer's sewing machine, so it is Jinny's own property for it was bought in her name. Yesterday I grubbed up 2 old posts & 2 stumps & set fire to another one.

Fri. May 30, 1902. Pay Friday. We worked all of this week. My pay was the biggest one I have ever received. It was £ 6-3-0 for 10 ½ days, after all expenses were paid. Yesterday I left work at 11-30 a.m. & came up in the dinner time cage. May & I then took our Josie to Mrs. McLauchlin's house, & she went up with us to the Wallsend hospital, with Josie in May's pram, to have him circumcised. At 4 p.m. he was operated on by Dr. Buckley, Bean, Andy Nash, & another. A young woman named Buckley was also operated on & had her leg-bane scraped. Josie soon came out of the chloroform, & then Mrs. McLauchlin wrapped him up & she & May carried him down to Kirk's corner, near the

train & tram lines, where I was waiting with the pram. we wheeled hi home & put him to bed. He slept until 7 p.m. & then awoke as if nothing had happened. We gave him his breakfast, dinner, & tea all together, as he had nothing since morning in compliance with doctor's orders. Jinny is ill again through worrying over Jose. I took my machine bar to blacksmith Bill Morris to be mended.

Sun. May 31, 1902. Jinny is no better. This evening I went down & consulted Dr. J.B. Nash about her, & he gave me 2 powders for her. We have had Lizzie Smurthwaite working here to-day, as Jinny is too ill to work. Josie is getting along all right.

Mon. June 2, 1902. We worked to-day. Charlie Fretwell has started a crosscut from the narrow bord, at the heading where we work, to the first right hand turn going in off the top flat. This evening I began to grub up a big stump near the back fence. Doctor Buckley came & saw Jinny & attended to Josie. Dolly Smith came this morning to do the housework.

Tues. June 3, 1902. This is a public holiday & all the pits are idle. I worked at the stump that I started at on Monday. George Smurthwaite was tried to-day at Newcastle, & sentenced to 6 months imprisonment in Maitland jail. Bob has lent me "Notable Shipwrecks". The British & Boer war has ended.

June 4, 1902. We worked again to-day. I got my tomahawk at Bill Morriss'. The machine had been sent over to Maddison's blacksmith's shop. The notice for cavilling is up at Elermore Vale for the 19th. I received "The Plain Dealer" from Emily Matthews.

Thur. June 5, 1902. We were all at work again. I went to Buckley's surgery & got a powder for Josie. I bought 13 2d stamps to send to Jim Moroney for Socialist pamphlets & to pay my contribution to the "People".

Thur. June 12, 1902. I bought some stamps a week ago to send to Jim Moroney who is editing "The People" instead of Harry Holland, but as I had forgotten the address I had to wait & get it from the "People". Fretwell & Parkerson left us last Monday & started to work in a bord in the right hand heading on the way to the new shaft in the gully. The shaft is not finished at 135 feet. Manager Jimmy Barr's daughter died this week of consumption of the bowels. I closed my letter to Will Trezise this evening.

Fri. June 13, 1902. We filled 19 skips. Our pay was £ 5-12-4 ½ each clear of expenses. I bought a number 6 Parkes shovel

892.

for 3/6 at Froome's shop, & a sheet of flat zinc 7 x 4 feet for 3/6, to cover the chinks between the slabs of the bedroom. I went to Morriss' and paid 5/- on the boring machine & repairs. I received a letter from Hughde Lergie, also aso some copies of "Justice". I posteda letter to Jim Moroney, & l to Will Trezise, Broken Hill. This evening Jinny & I tack ed up 7 strips of zinc inside the bedroom.

Sat. June 14, 1902. Jinny & I took Josie to Newcastle this afternoon in the tram. I bought a steel square for 1/- . & Jinny bought a front bar to put on the grate, for 1/-. Also a cap for Jose , & a petticoat for herself, at Cook's shop. We went to the wharf & saw the steamer "Archer" come in. At Fairless' shop I bought 4 books:- "The skin In Health & Disease"; "Political Economy", by Prof. Stanley Jevons; "Eastern Manners & Customs", by W.K. Tweedie, D.D.; (3d each) & "Everybody's Guide To Photography".

Sun. June 15, 1902. I went to the Congregational church, behind the Wallsend Agricultural Hall, this evening, & heard Mr. Parker preach on David & Nabal. The congregation was not very large. After the service I had a long conversation with Mr. Parker on Socialism, as he claims to be a Socialist.

Mon. June 16, 1902. The deputation that was appointed last night to see old Bob Maddison about the discharge of Richardson, the shover-up, waited until 10 p.m. , but could not find him. It transpired afterwards that Maddison was at a play. So the wheeler did not satisfaction, & the others did not start this morning. Consequently we were idle to day. Maddison will meet them this morning. I fixed up the book-case to-day.

Wed. June 18, 1902. The deputation--Dan & Sam Rees & George Johnson-- met Maddison yesterday & got him to promise to pay for deficient places, except G. Johnson's for roof coming down, & to re-instate young Richardson, though he is to get only 4/6 a day instead of 5/6. So work was resumed to-day. Jim Pitchford's foot is still very sore. I paid Cassie Watkins a pound for Dave this evening.

Fri. June 20, 1902. We worked yesterday & to-day. I received 12 pamphlets from Jim Moroney; 2 each of 6 kinds. They are: "Plutocracy Or Nationalism, Which ?", by Edward Bellamy; "The Evolution Of The Class Struggle", by W.H. Noyes; "The Man Under The Machine", by A.M. Simons; "Socialists In French Municipalities", by C.H. Kerr; "Capital", by Karl Marx"; "Women & The Social Problem", by May W. Simon. Cost 1d each. I bought a large pane of glass for the book case this evening.

1902.

Sat. June 21, 1902. Jim & I finished up in our pillar by noon, as he & Charlie wanted to start early to draw the timber out. Last night I fixed up a picture, & put the glass in the bookcase. I lent Jim Pitchford "The Evolution of the Class Struggle".

Sun. June 22, 1902. Bill Hinds visited us this morning & stayed until noon. Bob also came up with Jimmy. I went down to Mother this evening instead of going to the Congregational church to hear Mr. Parker as I intended to.

Mon. June 23, 1902. Jim & I started in our new bord this morning, on back shift. We had only half a skip of coal to start with, but we filled 14 by 3-40 p.m., & left a few for tomorrow. We holed into a cut-through on the right. Jose has been ill all day. He complained of headache, & will not eat I think it must be measles coming on him. Nearly every child in the place has or had them.

Tues. June 24, 1902. Jinny called the doctor in to see Josie, & he said the lad has measles coming on, & must be kept warm in bed. I sent Jim out of the pit early, as we had plenty of coal. I could do no work about the house as Josie was so ill. Annie Batty is very ill of inflammation of the lungs after measles.

Wed. June 25, 1902. We worked again, & I sent Jim out at 9-30 a.m. as we had plenty of loose coal. Josie has a bad cough & is very restless & thirsty. Annie Batty is a little better.

Thur. June 26, 1902. To-day has been proclaimed a public holiday on account of it being fixed on as the coronation day of King Edward number 7 of England, but, unfortunately for him & luckily for us, he has to postpone the show until he is well. So we worked to-day as usual. I went down & saw doctor Newton about Josie & got more medicine for him & a gargle for myself.

Fri. June 27, 1902. We worked. My pay for 10 days was £ 6-0-7 clear of expenses. I bought a bottle of tasteless castor oil for 1/- & 1/- worth of camphorated oil (4 ounces) to rub on Josie. I also bought a mout organ for him at Mannerfield's shop.

Sat. June 28, 1902. I sawed the 8 long slabs that were left at Jack's house, into 8ft. lengths & carried them up to our house to make a porch at the back. Bob went to Newcastle this morning, but this afternoon he helped me to build the porch.

20 1. 91

Early this morning I walked out to Alex Ross' house & got an order from young Ross for, or rather permission to split 50 posts & rails on the company's land. It cost 1/6. I saw old Jim French about the posts & rails, & I called on Jack Osborn, the carter.

Sun. June 29, 1902. I read "The Man Under the Machine" to Mother this afternoon. I stayed at home this evening to help Jinny to look after Jose. Lizzie Smurthwaite is helping this week.

Mon. June 30, 1902. I was front shift, & Jim sent me out at noon as we had a lot of coal loose. Jack Gibson's Father has died of pneumonia. Jose is getting better, but he is covered with red spots yet. His face is clear, but his eyes are inflamed. I did a bit more to the porch this afternoon.

Tues July 1, 1902. We had to leave the pit at dinner time, as there was a big fall of roof on the main road at the bottom of the farthest flat. Osborn carted a load of posts & rails for me before noon, & afternoon I rode out with him & helped to cart in 2 more loads. We finished a little before dark. He charged 5/- a load for carting. I paid for 1 load. I got a coal ticket to-day.

Wed. July 2, 1902. I came out of the pit at 2 p.m. The bord is working very well. I worked at our porch again & made the battens ready for the roof. Josie is up again, but he had a bad earache this evening.

Thur. July 3, 1902. Josie is up & running about again. I left the pit at noon. This afternoon I began mortising posts for the fence. Jinny & I measured the ground.

Fri. Jy. 4, 1902. I ~~was~~ worked in the pit, & at the fence ~~at~~ when I came home. No work in the mine to-morrow. Maddison is having a lot of trouble with the new air shaft in front of our house, for, instead of the air going down the shaft as it was expected to do, it comes up from the colliery on account of the shaft mouth being ~~higher~~ higher than the furnace shaft which is in a gully near Bill Matthews' house. The pit air is no better now than before the new shaft was sunk. I attended our miners' meeting this evening, & bought a box at Hetherington's shop.

Sat. Jy. 5, 1902. No work at the pit. This morning 6 of Maddison's screenmen shovelled away the dirt & rocks from the top of the new airshaft, & Jack Taylor & Joe Hughes fences it in. Taylor gave me some battens & left 14 other ~~pie~~ pieces under

92 81 4.

our house until they are carted away. This morning I used the porter case, that I bought at Hetherington's pub, to finish boarding up the porch, which is ready for the roof. Afterward I did some fencing.

Sun. Jy. 6, 1902. I wrote a letter of 8 pages to Pat O'Grady. Toothache stopped me from going to hear Mr. Parker preach; so Jinny, Jose & I went down to Mother.

Mon. Jy. 7, 1902. Maddison's pit is idle, so I worked at the fence all day.

Tues. July 8, 1902. We made a start in the pit this morning, & as we had plenty of loose coal, I sent Jim away at noon. We filled 17 skips, which cleaned us up. I was ill all day with indigestion caused by too much cold boiled rice for breakfast, so I could do little but fill the skips. I put one post in the ground when I came home. There was a good shower of rain last night. I bought a new Bible of Billy Conn's son for 2/-.

Wed. Jy. 9, 1902. We started to work in the pit this morning, but had only filled 5 skips when a lad came & told us the pit had stopped working, as there was something wrong at the snaf-t; so we came home at dinner time. I finished the front portion of the fence, which consists of 12 panels. Jack's lad, Bertie has measles.

Sun. Aug. 31, 1902. I wrote the following letter this morning to Mr. J. Hillman, mining engineer, 75 Skipton Street, Ballarat, Victoria. "High Street, Pitttown, Wallsend, N.S.W. Aug. 31, 1902. Dear Sir, About the month of March last year I wrote to you a letter in which I informed you of the efforts that were being made in this State to have the use of safety-catches made compulsory by law. The matter has so far developed that Mr. Kidd, the Minister for Mines, has asked the proprietors of the coalmines to meet an equal number of the representative of the Colliery Employees' Federation & confer as to the desirability & practicability of using safety-catches in the collieries of N.S.W. That will be held in Sydney or Newcastle in (probably) a fortnight's time. I have been nominated by the C.E.F. Delegate Board as one of the representatives of the Federation, & as I wish to prove conclusively to the Minister for Mines that safety-cages are in use in Victoria & other States, & are cheap, reliable, & lasting, I am very anxious to get incontrovertible evidence, in the shape of a little working model of one of your best safety-cages with catches fixed up in a rigid wooden frame, with runners & pulley wheel to exactly represent the top of a shaft in which one your cages is used. Will you be kind enough to make & lend me such a model

2 a. 93.

free of charge, until the Conference shall have been held, when I will return it in good order. I am fully aware that the making of a model entails a deal of expense, but when I reflect that your patent catches would obtain a very valuable advertisement by being exhibited & tested at the ~~xxxxxxx~~ Conference I am assured that my request is not unreasonable. If you decide to do as requested, I would like to suggest that you pack the model in such a manner that it shall not get injured by the rough usage of porters; that it may be possible to unscrew the case so that it may be used to re-pack the model to return it, & that it may be easily taken out without disarranging anything. The weight of model, case & all, should not exceed 100, or 150 pounds.

I trust, Sir, that you will be able to comply with my request, as by doing so you will help yourself & very greatly assist the C.E.F. in its efforts to have safety-catches introduced. Kindly reply as soon as possible & let me know what you can do in the matter. I am, Sir, Yours respectfully, Josiah Cocking.

P.S. Although the C.E. F. representatives are not instructed to ask that Middleton safety hooks be used in connection with the safety-catches, it would be worth while to fix them on your model to show how they work in practice. Of course it is not absolutely necessary to include them in the model, but I thought that if you decide to construct it they could easily be included & thus make the model complete. It has been said that when the runners, on which the safety-catches work, get worn thin the catches fail to grip them. Will you let me know whether this is a fact or not? Also whether you have catches that will work on wire rope guides in place of runners? I fancy I have asked you this question before, but, if so, I have forgotten your reply."

Sep. 17, 1902. Copy of my letter to the Proprietors of the New Automatic Knitter:- "H.H.N. Dept., 67 Southwark Street, S. E. London, Eng. Dear Sir, In the issue of "Home Notes" of July 10, 1902 I notice an advertisement of your new automatic knitter for home work. Very little information is given by the advertisement, not even the price of the machine is mentioned, but so far as I can see, it is absolutely unknown in this part of the world, & if the price is reasonable & could be paid on the time-payment system, (which is in vogue here) I believe the machine could be sold in every part of these States. My object in writing to you is to ask you for a little information & to make a proposal re the machines. I am a miner, 35 years of age, with a wife & 1 child, & am well known in this town. At the present time I am out of employment through a falling off in the demand for coal at Newcastle. I am a total abstainer & one that you could rely upon (though I am forced to

saybo myself). What I propose is this:- That you send to me full information about the knitters, that is how they are worked to make socks, stockings, etc. & the price of each machine, also send one machine as a sample, & supply me with credentials, & appoint me as your agent & representative in this State. Or if you do not feel confident that I am honest & reliable on my own unsupported word, let me know what you would require before appointing me to act as your agent. In any case, let me know as soon as possible what it would cost to get a machine landed in Newcastle, N.S.W. I am asking for this favour because it would assist you & would most probably help me to get an honest living outside of the coal mines. If you are inclined to favour this offer, & would like to have another agent, I can procure a reliable, active man in South Australia, where I am well & favourably known. If you wish it, I will get references from Senator de Largie, of W.A., & Mr. John Estell, M.P. of this State. Also from Mr. D. Millar, merchant & ex-Mayor of Newcastle. Kindly reply as soon as you can & oblige Yours sincerely Josiah Cocking, Wallsend, N.S.W. Australia."

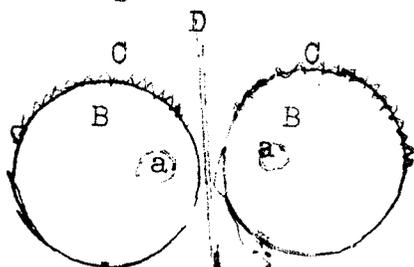
Mon. Sep. 29, 1902. Maddison's pit has been idle 3 weeks. Last Tuesday we started again & worked until Saturday, when we were idle again. During the 3 weeks idleness Jim Pitchford & I went by Johnson's steamer to Swansea, & thence by Bill Ellingworth's bus to the Wallarah colliery to look for work. We saw the under manager, who said there was no chance to start, as the pit was full up. We then walked to Catherine Hill Bay, where Jim visited a family named Kitson whom he knew in Victoria. He called me in, & I had a cup of tea with them. The houses are nearly all alike in shape & colour, as they belong to the Wallarah Coal Company, & the miners have to pay 5 or 6 shillings a week for them. They are mostly 4 roomed wooden houses, & the others are built of bricks. We returned by the steamer that left Cranghen Bay at 5 p.m. That was last Friday, but we had no pay to draw. I saw Tom Pearce, of Wallaroo Mines, on board, & had a long conversation with him. He lives at Greta, but works at Wallarah.

Thur. Oct. 9, 1902. This afternoon I wrote the following letter to Mr. J. Hillman, 75 Skipton street, Ballarat:-

" Dear Sir, Your very obliging letter of Sep. 4th arrived safely, & I thank you for your information re the catches. When I wrote to you last I understood that the conference of miners & proprietors was to take place in a fortnight from then, but it is now definitely decided to hold the conference

Q. A. 95.

in the Newcastle Trades Hall on the 18th inst. (Saturday, 9 a.m.) As there is still sufficient time to send your model cage to be shown at the conference, I am writing this to ask you to kindly send, or instruct your son to bring, the model to the Trades Hall, Hunter Street West on that date, for the use of the miners' representatives. Re the safety-catches, for wire rope skids, I have been informed by a friend in South Australia that there are such catches in use, but he did not say where they are used. He sent me a rough drawing of one which I take pleasure in forwarding to you, as, with very little trouble you could adapt it to work on wire instead of your grip for wooden skids.



This is a rough copy of the safety catch. A A are the shafts of toothed iron wheels to which they are firmly keyed. B B are the wheels of which C C are the toothed portions; & D is a wire rope hanging in a shaft. You will notice that the shafts a a are not in the center of the wheels, but just enough out to allow the wheels to be turned back from the rope when the weight of the cage is taken up by the springs. When the weight is taken off, the wheels come into contact with the rope between them & thus hold the cage. The only fault I can find in this device is that the wheels should have their teeth below instead of on the upper portion, as the weight would then tend to force them into closer contact. It would not take you long to adapt this grip to your cage, or, failing that, to construct another to hold on wire ropes. If I had the tools & appliances I would make the experiment myself. Thanking you for your kind wishes, & hoping that you will be able to forward your model in time for the conference on the 18th inst., I remain

Yours respectfully, Josiah Cocking."

Sat. Nov 1, 1902. A fortnight ago to-day I attended a conference that was held at the Trades Hall, Newcastle, between 16 representatives of the Colliery Employees' Federation & 16 reps of the colliery proprietors, on the subject of safety-catches. Young Mr. Hillman came with a model of his safety cage. The proprietors were all against the use of the safety cages in their coal mines. The chairman, Pittman, the under secretary of mines, was also against them. I was the last to speak, & I strongly denounced the chairman for his partiality to the proprietors. My remarks were not reported in the Newcastle Herald. The conference was a failure. The proprietors

96

would not agree to use safety catches on their cages, & Pitman, who represented the Mines Department, would not promise to amend the law to make the use of catches compulsory. I was paid 14/- by the C.E.F. for attending the conference, & was surprised to get so much.

My next move to have catches used was to write to Kate Reed for a copy of the Lithgow Mercury for the account of the introduction of a safety cage at a Lithgow mine. I have not received a reply. To-day Jack, Bob, & I went out & split 31 palings for my fence & wheeled them home.

Mon. Dec. 8, 1902. Jim & I filled 16 skips to-day. This evening I attended, for the first time, a meeting of Spiritualists at John Gay's house at Pittown. Those present were John Jackson, senior; his wife; Jack Gay; Mrs. Gay; & myself. We sat around a table in a dim light. After sitting a few minutes I saw small sparks near my hands. Mrs. Jackson's hand was controlled (by a spirit friend, she said) & was violently moved about & made to drum on the table. She held a pencil but it only scribbled. Near the end of the sitting my left hand became numb & began to vibrate from left to right. I was given a pencil & paper, & wrote slowly but did not know what was being written, but found that it was the word Anniversary. The word was written again, ~~but~~ by my left hand although I am right-handed & always write with my right hand I did not know what I was going to write. When the writing was done the numbness left my hand & it stopped moving. None of the sitters touched my hand. I feel sure that my hand was guided by power outside of myself, but I could not see the writer. Jack Jackson said I was evidently a writing medium. He afterwards lent me a book entitled "How To Develop Mediumship", by E.W. & M.H. Wallis.

Tues. Dec. 9, 1902. We worked only half a day.

Wed. Dec. 10, 1902. I received a letter yesterday from the Automatic Knitting Company, London, in reply to one that I sent last September. They say that they have an agent in Sydney. They also sent a list of prices & illustrations of their machine. Maddison's pit did not work; so I went out & split 51 palings. David Begbie came out with his horse & cart & carted in 110 palings for me.

Mon. Dec. 15, 1902. We worked in the colliery to-day, but I went out at noon with Jack Jackson. After dinner I went to the bush & sawed off a log, split 21 palings, & cut off another length of log. I came home at 5 p.m., as I wished to attend another Spiritualist sitting at Gay's house. We met & sat as before. After singing "I would follow Jesus" we waited for some manifestation of spirit power. Then the large table

at which we sat, was violently agitated. Then Mrs. Jackson's right hand was controlled & she shook hands with Mrs. Gay, who was then partly controlled by some power that was said to be Mrs. Gay's sister Elizabeth & to be visible to Mrs. Gay though I did not see her. Lizzie said, through Mrs. Gay, ~~that~~ "Oh, my poor children!", & continued to speak of Mrs. Johnson (her mother) who is still alive. She told me that Jack's boy Bertie will get well. She continued speaking until 9 p.m. when we broke the circle & I went home.

Expenses in connection with the building of our house:-
Slabs, 8/-; spikes 2/-; rope 6d; ~~2x1 1/2~~ powder 2/1 1/2; carting 30/-; picks 1/3; grate 2/6; jumper 1/6; repairs to grate 1/- zinc 2/6; window glass 10d.
Borrowed of ~~Bob~~ Jack, £ 4-16-0. Borrowed of Bob, £ 3-10-0. Repaid.

Copy of Pittman's letter;→

"Department of Mines & Agriculture. Sydney, 22nd Sep. 1904.
Sir, With reference to your letter of yesterday's date addressed to the Minister, in which you deplore the fact that at the conference in Newcastle two years ago, I opposed the insertion of a clause in the Coal Mines Regulation Act to provide that safety catches be put on all cages in which miners descend or ascend shafts, I am directed to inform you that the matter was most carefully considered at the time & the following reasons weighed with the department in not supporting the proposal to compel colliery owners to employ safety catches in their shafts.
The "safety Catch" is not compulsory, nor is it in general use in collieries in either Great Britain, or America. the two greatest coal producing countries in the world.
The last Royal Commission in Great Britain on Accidents in Mines reported against the use of "Safety Catches" in collieries.
None of the authors of the best known text books on Mining is in favour of the use of "Safety Catches in coal mines. Safety catches are very generally used in metalliferous mines, but there the conditions are different from those in collieries. In the metalliferous mines in different parts of the world where safety catches are employed, the shafts are fitted with wooden guides, and, as a general rule, the speed of winding is comparatively slow. The coal mines of N.S.W., like most of the up-to-date collieries in other parts of the world where rapid winding is practised, are mostly fitted with wire rope or steel-rail guides, & no safety catch has yet been shown to work satisfactorily with guides of this description.
If the request of the Colliery Employees' Federation had been acceded to, the owners of coal mines would have been

982. ~~of coal mines would have been~~ compelled by law to entirely alter their shaft arrangements & replace their wire-rope or steel-rail guides with wooden ones, at great expense, in order to introduce so-called safety catches, the use of which has been condemned by a British Royal Commission & by the most eminent mining engineers & authors of the day.

It may be added that not a single life has yet been lost through the breaking of a rope in the coal mines of this State, after more than 50 years of mining, which is a very remarkable proof of the safety of the methods at present employed. I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant
E.F. Pittman, Under Secretary & Government Geologist."
Mr. Josiah Cocking, Wallsend."

Copy of Harry Holland's letter:-

"Grenfell, Oct. 13, 1904. Dear Joe, Your letter came to hand yesterday--& I can tell you I was glad to hear from you once again. I have often wondered whether you were still at Wallsend. First of all, though, let me tell you of our great trouble. Last week (Monday) our little Eddie died (cause of death was membranous croup) after about 9 day's illness. He was just 5 years old, & was a bright, happy little chap. The blow was a heavy one to both of us. I am sorry to learn of your position; but I wouldn't advise you to think of coming this way. All the old Grenfell mines are idle. At Burrabaldry (17 miles away) a few men are working; & at Cooriyal--about 20 miles out-- 60 men are on a new field, & some are doing well while most are slaving & breaking their hearts for nothing. I fancy that Wyalong (60 miles from here) is better, but there appears to be more men there than there is work for. It's a glorious country we live in! For 2 years I've slaved here on the "Vedette" & have succeeded in lifting the paper from an awful wreck to a fairly decent concern; but I came here burdened with debt from "The People" (out of which I got nothing) & that burden & the long credit system have always handicapped me. We have succeeded in selling out, & by the time I get in what money is available, & pay up what I owe, I expect I shall leave as I came. I mean to return to Sydney in the middle of December & start for myself there once more. The rainfall is so uncertain here; & one bad season takes a lot of pulling up. Cost of living here is fully 50 per cent higher than in Sydney or Newcastle; climate, cold, in winter, as charity but hot as the other place in Summer. Would advise your friend's syndicate to leave Grenfell properties severely alone-- so many have been bled. I have fully made up my mind never to leave the big cities again. Perhaps I shall see you when I get back to civilisation; but I shall always welcome a line from you. With all good wishes, believe me your comrade
H.E. Holland". "

Copy of Mrs. Trezise's letter:-
"Broken Hill, Oct. 24, 1904. Dear friends, It is with pleasure I sit down to answer your kind & welcome letter, which I received all right. We answered all the letters we got from you. The last one we got was from Mrs. Cocking. We have been having a lot of bad luck. We buried our little girl we had--the baby when we wrote last. She was bad 5 hours. She died in convulsions. We have got a little boy now. He has been under an operation. We had him circumcised. That cost 3 guineas. Dolly went under an operation a week after baby, & her's cost 5 guineas, & she is going under another one-- perhaps next week-- then the doctor wants me to put her in a home in Adelaide. He said she will want a change after the operation, & put her in the home for a year or 2. He said they will school her there. I will let you know next letter. He said I will never be able to do anything for her myself, so I am going to put her there. I have been ill myself. I have had ulcerated eyes: that is 3 times I have had them, but this was the most painful of the lot. My face was swollen from the top of my head down to my neck. People used to be frightened when they looked at me. We thought I was never going to get my sight again. Now I have got to wear glasses that cost 30/-. Then I had to take the baby from the breast: it was killing him & me. It was when he was 8 months old. I always suffered in my head, but since I got the glasses I have never had a headache. Myrtle is growing up a fine girl now. She is up to my shoulder. She does not turn after me--she is tall. Will was going to answer your letter, but if you wait for him you will wait a long time. Our little boy is called William Thomas. He is a fine baby to look at, but he suffers a lot with his teeth. We had our photos taken. If this letter reaches you safely I will send you one, then you can judge for yourself how we all are."
(The rest of the letter is lost. It was answered on Nov. 2, 1904.).

Copy of letter from Aunt Grace to Mother:-
" Redruth, Cornwall, Mar. 23, 1905. Dear Sister, Just a few lines to let you know that we received your letter all right, & we are glad to see that you are all well. I have been down to the Bank, & I was there an hour waiting for them to look over the books, & they could not find your name, or money for you there. I am very sorry, to find that your husband & sons are all out of work; I hope they will soon get to work steady, for I think a little money would come handy to you now. It is like it in this world: some have more than they want, & others have not enough. The times here have been some hard all the Winter; scores of men out of work. I am sorry to see that your sons' children are so sick. Perhaps as they grow older they will get stronger. I received a letter from brother Robert, & they are all well. They have 2 girls.... a boy married, & the other 2 are

100

very.... I have not heard from Billy since I wrote to you last but.... he is better....said you are going to write to him. When you hear from him let us know. We have had a lot of rough weather here-- thunder & lightning-- lots of cattle killed, & lots of accidents. There was an explosion in Wales & 37 men killed in a coal pit. I think it is awfully bad. You said you have got kind friends. I am glad you are quite comfortable with your daughters-in-law. I would very much like to have your photo & your husband's photo taken together. Josiah can do that for you. You say you are gone very thin. I expect you will feel a bit better not being so stout. Tell Josiah I am very pleased with his letter, & I shall be very glad to have one any time. When you are taking Mother's & Father's photos, take them as young as you can. We are very well at present, & hope this will reach you the same. From your affectionate brother & sister, Walter & Grace Perkyns. William's address is:-Mr. William Rowe, San Antonio, Copiapo, Chili. Robert's address is:- Mr. Robert Rowe, Crockett, Contra Costa Co, California, U.S.A.

Copy of letter from Uncle John Rowe to Mother:-

"San Jose. 1906. Dear Sister, We were glad to get a letter & to know that you are still living. We are more than glad to receive your pictures. I think you are a good-looking woman, & I like the look of your husband; he looks to be a good man. Dear Sister, I am so glad that you have given your heart to God! Amelia said she knew that you are a good woman, for what comes from the heart goes to the heart. She said it made her as if her soul was lifted from earth to Heaven! Let's pray for each other, & bye & bye, if we prove faithful, we shall wear the crown for ever. Let's pray, never mind trouble or sickness we have got, for God will wipe away all tears from our eyes, & sorrow we never shall know. Oh! that God will bring us there, that when the roll is called in Heaven we shall answer to our names! Good bye! Your loving brother, John Rowe."

List of pays I received at Wallaroo Mines:-

April 29, 1899 £ 4-5-7.
 May 27, 1899 & 6-14-1.
 June 24, 1899 £ 6-8-7.
 July 22, 1899 £ 6-7-2.
 Aug. 19, 1899, 6-5-10.
 Sep. 16, 1899, 6-0-4.
 Oct. 14, 1899, 5-12-1.
 Nov. 11, 1899, 4-18-4.
 Dec. 9, 1899, 5-2-5.
 Jan 6, 1900, 5-10-10.
 Feb. 3, 1900, 6-7-2.
 Mar. 31, 1900, 6-14-0.

Friday, Jan. 29, 1907.

I have started to work in Charley Rundle's gang of fettlers on the railway between Minmi and Hexham. Our work ~~principally~~ principally consists of lifting & ballasting the line, & laying new sleepers & rails. Bob works with us, & Bob & I walk to Minmi every morning to begin work at 7 a.m. Old Jack Perry is also in the gang.

701
Copy of a letter from Aunt Grace to Mother:-

"Redruth, Cornwall, July 25, 1906.

Dear Sister & Brother, We now answer your kind & welcome letter. We are sorry we have kept you waiting so long. We hope this will find you all well. We are very well at time of writing. You asked about brother John. I had a letter from Robert & he wrote to John & it came back again, so we do not know where he is: when we do we will let you know. You said you were going to have your photos taken. I have been expecting it. I am glad to see that you are a little better. I am glad to find that you have such a good husband & children; you must think yourself blest. I hope the times are better by this time, & the children all working. Times home here are very dull. We have beautiful weather, & we are expecting a good harvest. I have not received but one letter from Chili this year. I suppose I shall not now brother Billy is dead. I am glad to know that your daughters-in-law are kind to you & are helping you on. I think Josiah is like his mother; he has got a good head on him. I thank him very much for his kind letter. You say Josiah has 3 little boys. I would like to have their photos taken on one card. I am very glad Robert has one of his little boys called after Father. I hope your daughter will be to her word this time. I shall be expecting one of her photos. We are very sorry that William John has been hurt, but glad to see he is able to work again, & we hope he got on in his business. We are sending you 2 post cards-- one is Saint Day Church. Tell the children it is the church you were married in; & the other is St. Day clock. It has been newly done up, & it does strike now. You remember it did not when you were at home. The other photo is of East Pool mine, for Josiah to see what it is like home here. I cannot get the view of St. Day: when I can you shall have one."

Copy of a letter from my Cousin, Elizabeth Beuttner, the only daughter of uncle John Rowe, to Mother:-

"&24 South Street, San Jose, Cal. U.S.A. 1906.

Dear Uncle & Aunt, We received your photos & the letter to-day. Just a year & a half ago we received a good long letter from you. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves for not answering it. The excuse is this:- Papa & Mama feel they can't compete with your letter-writer, which I believe is my cousin, & I don't get much time for letter writing. This is the first I have attempted in 4 years. It is hard, too, to write to someone I have never seen, even if they are so close related to me. It was the same with uncle Bob & his folks. For years we lived just 75 miles apart & felt like strangers until just 2 years ago he made us a short visit. I wish you could have seen him, Auntie, walking

become of you, but never mind!" I'm not going to write you a newspaper, nor go into Polly tricks, but first of all I must tell you we've got another young daughter, & a fine little girl she is, too. She was born on the 19th of October, & both she & Nell are getting on fine.

Dolly can't walk yet: the doctor said it will be 3 years before she will walk; so we have a baby each now. Myrtle is getting on very well, & growing a big girl. We are sorry to hear of Mrs. Cocking's brother's death; also to hear that Jack is having trouble with his little boy. I hope the poor little fellow will soon be well again.

Dear Joe, I don't know if this is true or not, but Sam Penhall's wife told us last night that Joe Phillips' little boy wandered away & got into a shaft out at Jericho, & when they found him he had an arm & 3 ribs broken, & his leg broken in 2 places; so I wouldn't give much for that poor little fellow. I expect to hear more about it, & then I will let you know about it. I hope it is not true.

John is back at Wallaroo Mines again. We have not had a letter from him for a bit, but I don't think he is married yet. He is going with a Miss Prideaux-- old Charley's daughter, I think. He got sick of Bessie White. Jack Martin is still down there hammering away in the shop. I think he's making a yoke for Captain Hancock's cow; so he ought to be getting on fine. I have not had any constant work since the Junction North shut down. If things don't soon change I'll have to get out of this again. I have not got ten shillings a week this last 8 months. I am going....."

(The rest of this letter is lost).

Copy of W.A. Holman's letter:-

"N.S.W. Parliament, Nov. 21, 1901. Dear Mr. Cocking, Your letter of Nov. 14 to hand. I have had a good deal of business on my hands during the past fortnight in connection with certain matters in my electorate, & have been compelled to neglect other affairs. I am ashamed to say that your valuable suggestion was among the things that I have neglected. It is a striking comment on the way that an M.P.'s life is absorbed in a thousand unimportant details that such an idea should be left undealt with. I will see now how the Coal Mines Regulation Act stands; & if opportunity still serves will move an amendment on the lines you indicate. Safety-catches certainly ought to be insisted on everywhere. If you have another copy of your letter to the press I shall be glad of it. With kind regards believe me yours in haste, W.A. Holman."
(Answered Dec. 8, 1901.)

103.

Copy of a letter from Aunt Grace Perkyns to Mother:-
"Redruth, Cornwall, Feb. 16, 1902. Dear Sister & Family,
we are writing you a few lines in answer to your kind & welcome
welcome letter, which we received all right, & glad to see
you are all well, as it leaves us at present, which we are
thankful for. Dear Sister, we received the presents all ri-
ght, & I think they are very nice. They are something new
for home here. When we go out with them on the people will
see we have got somebody away across the water to remember
us; & I shall wear the brooch for your sake. Walter is ver-
y proud of his handkerchief: he will be some swell with it
coming up a little, showing from his breast pocket.
You asked about Uncle Richard in Yorkshire. We have not he-
ard anything about him for years. You asked if we have a
cousin: we have only one, down in Penzance, Aunt Eliza's dau-
ghter. I received a letter from Brother Robert; & I sent
your address to him. I had a letter from Brother Billy. He
& his family were well. You want to know what photos we ha-
ve received from you. We never had but one photo of you fo-
r years, & we have had one view of your town.
You asked what sort of people we have here. They are much
the same as in other places-- some better than others-- bu-
t not many that you know. I don't go home to St. Day very
often, but I know one thing-- the town clock is working &
it do strike, although it stopped for many years. If you
did see the place now you would not know it, it is altered
so much. I am glad to see you have a good husband & good
children, but sorry to see you are not able to do anything
You want to know some news. You know we have no family
to tell about, & the people--you don't know. A big family
like your will fill a big letter. We are having a very rou-
gh winter-- a lot of frost-- ome men can't work. The maso-
ns lose a lot of time in the Winter through rain & frost.
They ought to get double in the Summer to make up for it.
We are sending you a little present in remembrance of us.
It is a silk nectie for yourself; a nectie for your husban-
d; a lace necktie for your daughter; a handkerchief for
her little girl, & a pair of shoes for William John's baby
.I hope they will reach you all right, & that you will lik-
e them. The child is called Elizabeth Grace. I call that a
n old-fashioned name-- I should think you would have some
thing finer than that. I suppose you had your choice.
I must now close with love to you all. Hope this letter
will find you all well. From your affectionate Brother &
Sister, Walter & Grace Perkyns, Wishing you all a happy
new year. Good bye. "
(Answered 4th May, 1902.)

WALLSEND.
June 24 1902
WEDDING.

Miss M. Beecham, fourth daughter of Mr. F. Beecham, Cowper-street, Brookstown, was married to Mr. G. Latter, of Mount Vincent, at the Congregational Church on Wednesday last. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Parker, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Wirt, in the presence of a large attendance of relatives and friends of the contracting parties. The bride was dressed in French grey cashmere, trimmed with white satin and bebe ribbons, and wore a gold brooch, a gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaids were Miss E. Latter and Miss G. Beecham, Mr. A. Morris acting as groomsmen. The newly-married couple were the recipients of many valuable presents. The wedding breakfast was provided at the residence of the bride's parents.

104.

Copy of Will Trezise's letter:-

" Broken Hill, Ap. 27, 1902. Dear friends, I now take the pleasure of answering your very welcome letter, although I am ashamed to. We have treated you very shamefully; but never mind-- better late than never. We received your presents & are very thankful for them. Will says you are genuine with your thanks-- it was not bluff-- & we thought just as much of them as if they were £ 100. We have my sister's boy living with us. She is married again & can't get on with his step-father; so I have a big family now. Beck is staying with us. She has a bad ankle through scrubbing & standing so much.

There was a benefit dance & concert in aid of the distressed family of Joe Grose. He is crippled up with lead; & he got £ 39 out of the concert. Dolly can walk around the things now, & she is as proud as can be. Doris could sit on the floor by herself when she was only 5 months old; & she is a fine little girl. Myrtle is grown very tall, but she is very thin. She has lost her curls. I am thinking about sending her to school. Jack Matthews--Emily's brother-- has left his wife; she is a regular beauty: she drinks & steals all she can get hold of; & now she is in jail doing a term; & the 2 children are down with Emily.

We have got 2 rooms up, & we can't afford the iron to put on the roof. Will is now working. He made ~~7/10~~ 7/10. He can't write to-day because he is in bed drunk. My brother John is not married yet. He goes with a big lump of a girl: he goes in for quantity. I have been waiting for those long-promised photos. Things are looking very bad here. There is a lot of men out of work here. Dicky Easterbrook got his foot cut off with the trams the first day they ran: & they are expecting every day to see his wife die.

I have told you all the news I can think of, so I will close with best love from your loving friends, M.E. & W.A. Trezise." (Answered May 25, 1902).

Copy of a letter from J. Hillman to me:-

"From J. Hillman, engineering, mining, & general smith, agricultural implement maker & waggon builder, 75 Skipton street, Ballarat, Sep. 4, 1902. Dear Sir, Your note of Aug. 31 came duly to hand. With regard to model safety cage with poppet head, I don't think I can entertain the matter, as it would be too expensive. I have several cages at Broken Hill working, & they are giving the greatest satisfaction. They use wooden skids. I have not, so far, been asked to supply safety appliances for wire ropes, but I have no doubt it could be made to answer very well, but not quite so sure as wooden skids. With regard to the worn skid I may say that the gripper will continue to hold until the skid is unsafe to

PRIME FACON FIGS.

105.

run & should be renewed. But they last many years before being worn out or too thin; for when the skids are badly worn the cage is not so steady in the shaft. I may here mention that my son is at present in Sydney. I will enclose his address so that if you are in Sydney you might call on him. I will instruct him to stay over the Conference if it is within reasonable time. I may be able to send over a little model if I can get it returned to me in time. At present it is away, & I am not sure that I can get it back in time to send it over to my son, who would take charge of it & bring it back again.

The price for the usual size cage for quartz mines is from £ 18 to £ 25, for a single cage; & £30 to £ 40 for double cages. I shall be pleased to supply any other information if I can forward your most desirable action. Trusting you will gain your wishes, I am, dear Sir, Yours truly
J. Hillman."

Copy of a letter we received from our good friends, Will & Mrs. Trezise:-

"Broken Hill, July 20, 1902. Dear Joe & Mrs. Cocking, It is with pleasure I write you these few lines in answer to your kind & welcome letter we received, but the letter got mislaid, so so I don't know the date, but never mind. Well, I can't say I am sorry for not writing before, because it is wilful neglect on my part; but I know you are of a forgiving nature, & you will forgive me again, I know. We have lots of ups & downs in life. I've been as busy as a hen with one chick about the old huouse lately. We have got the roof on, & we are living in it; so that stops the rent. We find it is more comfortable than the house we were paying rent for. We have got the 2 rooms with iron roof, canvas walls, & a German brick chimney, & a good stove; so we are set up. I'm glad to say I'm still working; but I'm in a poor contract this time; but it will end in another fortnight, & then I hope to get something better. This place is getting overstocked again on account of so many Wallaroo men coming up here. It will be a good job when the Wallaroo Mines mines go ahead again-- there is a lot up here that would go back again.

Well, dear friends, I don't know what news there is to write you any more than you see up in the moon. It is the same old thing here-- go to work & punch sulphides (that is of lead) & come home & sleep. This place is badly in need of rain. All the stations within 150 miles are bare of stock on account of no feed or water; & there are about 3000 people at White Cliffs who will have to go somewhere if it don't rain within a month. There hasn't been any rain here since last August of any note; but they say the Lord is good, or they used to tell me in Wallaroo Mines, so I suppose he will look after thin-

gs. Jack Leech has the cheek to think he has a right to keep another man's daughter; so I say, Let him go! So he is off down by the train to-night to marry Miss May Prideaux, old Charlie's daughter; & bless me! he's going to bring her to well, or the Hill, I should have said. Well, I hope he'll like the way married people live, & that he'll look after the poor girl, & be a good husband to her. I also hope she'll make as good a wife as his sister is.

I won't dwell any longer on matrimonial subjects, because we are going through the mill: & if anyone else is fool enough to start-- let her went! You said you didn't know who Bessie was. Well, it is my neice-- Rebecca Trezise-- Frank's oldest girl. She had a bad foot. I think she was with us 5 or 6 weeks. The doctor said she twisted it sometime; but I am glad to say she is well again & gone back to her place I suppose you saw the account of our Hercules Hanton getting into a bit of a scrape. I saw where he was remanded for sentence, but I didn't see the result. I hope the poor old chap will know better than to go priggging money that doesn't belong to him. There is one thing I am glad to say-- we have got a clock on the post office, & you can see the time if you go up close to it. But it stopped this morning; it has run down or something. I don't know if it was pay-day & the fellow that winds it got tight & didn't turn up, or what was the matter.

We had our Peace & Coronation spree here a week or 2 ago. There was some could do! Talk about fun on the Bristol! Horses & asses going through the street like a lot of fools; & some pretty lights hujg about.

Well, dear friends, I have told you all the rot I can think of. I am glad to say we are all very well. Dolly is getting on fine; & the baby also. Myrtle is going to school, & she likes it fine. I have no more to write at present, so I will conclude. Hoping this note will find you all well, & wishing you good luck we beg to remain your affectionate friends, W.A. & M.E. Trezise."

Letter from Mr. J. Hillman to me, dated Oct. 15, 1902.

"Dear Sir, Your note dated Oct. 9, came duly to hand. I thank you very much for your kindly notice re conference. My son will be there on Saturday morning, all being well. He starts from Melbourne to-day. I may mention that I am sending over one safety cage for a mine at Lithgow, N.S.W. It will be delivered next week, & my son will be there at the first trial. I trust you may be successful in your efforts to get safety appliances to all your cages. I thank you for your idea of eccentric catches. It was tried on Ballarat a long time, & at last the inspectors condemned it as being too slow, having to travel too far before gripping. But in the case of the wire rope it may be able to place the grippers much closer, & thus make

107. [REDACTED]
the action quicker. I may mention that there will be a public trial at the Lithgow mine, & I hope there will be a good gathering of mineowners & miners, so that both will be well represented. I have instructed my son to look you up when in Newcastle. I trust he will be successful. I must now conclude as I want to catch the mail. I am, dear Sir, Yours truly,
J. Hillman."

Copy of Kate Reed's letter:-

" Hermitage Flat, Lithgow, Jan 13, 1903. Dear Mary Jane & Joe, I received your letter & was glad to hear from you, & that you were all well, as this leaves us. I would have written before, but was waiting to see Billy Davis, but he does not know your Mother's maiden name; if he heard it he has forgotten it. I have tried all over for a specimen of Lance Allison's handwriting; but they say Mrs. Cowie--his widow-- may have a letter; so you could ask her. You ask me what I think of this Spiritu- alism. I would like to be where you are & see you do it so that I could get you to ask some questions for me. When you write again tell me if you have done it since, & what you have seen. I would like Mary Jane to speak to Jack if possible; & I hope you will do your best for him & ask is he happy. I cannot get any photos at present-- the times are too bad. The ironworks is shut down. Amy Weston is married to Tom Barker. She has a daughter 3 weeks old. I am not doing so well as I did before Christmas. I have always got on pretty well & never complained to anybody that I was not doing so well as I represented, & I don't know who could have told you. If I wanted anything, or had anything to tell, I would tell it to you, for I know you are a true friend, I thank you for the 4/- & the cards for the children. I bought Harry a pair of boots with the 4/-. I bought them toys before you sent the money. I hope Mary Jane will get over her trouble all right-- if she is not already over it. The work is terribly bad here at present. I am sending Josey, you, & Mary Jane, a card each. It is a bit late for Christmas cards, but better late than never, We had a very quiet Christmas. I am very sorry about your brother's children, & the poor little fellow (Bert) who has to go into the hospital again. I hope they are better by this time.

(The rest of the letter is lost.)

Copy of a letter from Aunt Grace Perkyns to Mother:- 10/4/1903. " Dear Sister & family, We are writing a few lines to let you know we received your letter all right. We are very sorry to see that you are not able to do your work. I should think it rather too much for your husband to work after he comes home. I should not think he could stand that very long. I think it is very unkind of your daughters-in-law not to help you a

ER 20, 1902.

OCT. 20 1902.

SAFETY CATCHES.

MANAGERS AND MINERS CONFER

NO DECISION ARRIVED AT.

A conference between mine managers and the executive officers and Delegate Board of the Colliery Employees' Federation, was held at the Technical College on Saturday morning to discuss the question of safety catches on pit cages.

Mr. Pittman, Under-secretary for Mines, presided, and both managers and miners were well represented. Mr. A. A. Atkinson, chief inspector, and Mr. W. Humble, inspector of collieries, were also present.

The conference having been opened and preliminary business dealt with, the delegates commenced the discussion.

Mr. Houston (Stockton Lodge) gave a blackboard illustration showing a cage with safety catches attached in a shaft. He described his idea, and was asked a number of questions, to which he replied. A discussion then followed. The general opinion amongst the managers, who, with the exception of Mr. Ross (manager Wallsend Colliery), and Mr. Mathieson (Hetton manager), said very little, was, that safety catches were not practicable.

Mr. Peter Bowling regretted the absence of the Minister for Mines, and said that the miners depended upon the mines office for expert knowledge. The Coal Mines Act contained provisions to safeguard the lives of men when below ground, and now they (the men) asked that their lives be protected when descending shafts. They had evidence of lives being lost by cage ropes breaking, and it was to guard against that danger that the suggestion in regard to safety catches had been made.

Mr. Hillman, representative of a firm of patentees, produced a model of a cage with safety catches. He explained that there were cages built on the lines of the model, six 2in long, working without difficulty in shafts 400ft deep. He would like to see the cages running in rail guides, backed by say, 5 x 3 wooden guides. The

model provided for sixteen grippers touching at the one time. At present if a rope broke, and men were in the cages, lives were lost, if coal, then property was destroyed. He was aware that some safety cages slipped; that was because of ineffective grippers. The grippers worked as wedges, and when weight was put in the cage it served to tighten the grip. Mr. Hillman here put the model on the ground, and placing his foot on the floor of the cage, put the whole weight of his body on it. This was done to show that the grippers would not slip, and proved their holding power. The cages had been running for five years in some places, and had not cost £20 in repairs. In answer to a question Mr. Hillman said that the weight of the cages was 22 cwt, and that they could be made to carry up to six tons.

The chairman, in reply to one of the managers, said it was admitted in the text books that safety catches frequently gripped when not wanted to. The main principles of the model before them were very old.

Mr. Mathieson: Hear, hear. That's correct, Mr. Pittman.

There appeared no inclination on the part of the managers to take part in the discussion at this stage.

Mr. Bowling said that the managers' opposition was based on the question of expense. He would point out that it was only necessary to use the safety catches when men were in the cages. When skips were being lowered or raised, the catches could be taken off. He would admit that proprietors always opposed inventions that were likely to cause expense. He did not expect that the managers would be convinced, but he thought that there was sufficient information to justify further investigations. He would like the Minister to appoint a commission to take evidence on oath, and provision made for a more effective examination of hauling ropes.

Mr. Mathieson: We have no accidents in this district.

Mr. Bowling: Are you waiting for one?

Mr. Mathieson said there was nothing in safety catches, they were not effective, and colliery proprietors should not be called upon to bear unnecessary expense.

Mr. M. Charlton, miners' treasurer, thought that the managers should controvert the statement that safety catches could be introduced, as the conference had been convened. If the proprietors' representatives could show that there was no necessity for safety catches, or

that they would be ineffective, the matter would end. Because there had been no fatal accidents in Newcastle on account of ropes breaking, it did not follow that there never would be any. The rope broke once at Hetton when coal was being hauled to the surface. It was possible for it to have happened when men were in the cage.

Mr. Mathieson: No, it would not.

Mr. Houston thought that the proprietors might, at least, give a trial to some appliance. They had not met to consider the question of expense, but, if possible, do something to minimise risk to life.

Mr. A. Ross, manager of Wallsend, said that the proprietors would not take the question of cost into consideration at all. They were as much alive to the miners' safety as any other body of employers. He knew as well as they all did that every step taken from the time a man entered the cage until he left it to go home was accompanied by danger; but he wanted to view this question of safety catches from a practical standpoint. He had just returned from a trip through Great Britain, America, and Canada. He saw all the appliances at the coal mines, and made a study of everything. Each manager and viewer that he met told him that safety catches had been found impracticable in Great Britain. There they found that the best method was to get the best of ropes, pay the best prices, and give every attention to them. The miners of Great Britain, numbering over two hundred thousands, had not raised the question of safety catches, but admitted that the rope was the thing. In America, where they had the best trained men in mechanics and engineering, they had not proved to the world, nor satisfied themselves or their workmen, that safety catches were practicable. The method shown to the conference was not a thing to minimise danger at all. If anything could be proved he was certain the proprietors would take it up, but nothing had been proved.

Mr. Curley (miners' secretary) said that since Mr. Ross left for England a winding-rope had broke at one of the mines in Great Britain and eight men were killed. How many demonstrations of that character were they to wait for before taking action? He was willing to admit that immunity from accidents here was a sign that good ropes were provided

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and, he would emphasise it, that good inspections were made. But, the breaking of a rope at Hettton showed that there was a possibility of danger. In the interests of the lives of many thousands of men much could be done by inquiry and more by experiment. He quoted from authorities to show that safety catches were used in Great Britain.

Mr. Kneeshaw (delegate Pelaw Main) said it was for the owners' representatives to prove that safety catches were useless or impracticable.

Mr. Forsyth (manager Dudley) said they were approaching the subject wrongly. If the men were only asking for an inquiry by the Government there was no question for argument. But he thought it should be demonstrated that something could be done.

Mr. J. Bower (miners' president) suggested that the Minister for Mines might give an opportunity of experiment with some of the patents.

The chairman said that the deputation had made inquiries, and had received reports as to conditions all over the world.

They had the opinion of the best mining engineers, and the report of a Royal Commission held in England. The Royal Commission report referred to showed that opinion was divided as to whether the catches introduced fresh elements of danger.

Mr. Curley: When was that Commission?

Mr. Pittman: In 1836.

Continuing, the chairman said that the report showed that safety appliances had at times failed to grip, and the Commission was unable to come to the conclusion that any of the safety appliances were trustworthy. Until something definite was placed before the Minister it would be unfair to ask mine owners to go to expense in altering their arrangements. The Minister had sent to England for a wire-rope testing machine, which would be a great acquisition. It appeared to him that if there was likely to be any advantage from safety catches it would have been discovered before now.

One of the miners' delegates said he hoped the views of the chairman were not those of the minister. He regarded Mr. Pittman as being in sympathy with the mine owners.

On the motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. J. Bower, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Pittman. The chairman, in responding, repudiated the assertion that he was partial.

The conference then terminated without decision of any kind.

COAL MINES ACT.

April 24 1902.

REFORMS ASKED FOR

DEPUTATION TO THE MINISTER.

SYDNEY, Tuesday.

A deputation, comprising Mr. J. Bower, the president, Mr. M. Charlton, the treasurer, and Mr. J. Curley, the general secretary, of the Colliery Employees' Federation of the northern district, accompanied by Messrs. Edden, Estell, and Griffith, Ms.P., waited on Mr. Kidd, the Minister for Mines, this afternoon to urge for the introduction of legislation on a number of matters affecting the coal mining community.

Mr. Bower, in introducing the deputation, apologised for the absence of Messrs. Edden and Gilbert, Ms.P. He said that the members of the Newcastle district were in sympathy with the subjects to be brought forward. These subjects had been frequently urged in times past, and it was a matter for regret that there should be any necessity for the presence of a deputation in regard to it now.

Mr. Curley said one of the subjects was the question of the introduction of safety catches on cages used in mines, and another related to the payment by weight of all mineral gotten. The first subject was brought under the notice of the Minister at Toronto last year. It was one which had been largely studied in England, and the system was in operation in Tasmania and South Australia. Mr. Hillman, an expert, had been consulted with regard to the feasibility of using safety catches in shafts with wooden guys, and he had reported that the catches could be used in such cases. It was desirable in the interests of the miners that the appliances should be adopted,

and if the proprietors were not agreeable to take such a course it would be necessary to introduce legislation to make the system compulsory. With regard to the weighing of all mineral gotten, the miners had understood that the law insisted upon such a method. Unfortunately, however, some mine-owners had refused to adopt it, and the men employed at those collieries were sufferers thereby. He alluded to the recent Privy Council appeal in regard to the Dudley case, and said that the miners had not yet been afforded an opportunity of acquainting themselves with the full particulars of the decision. There was a great deal of dissatisfaction in the Newcastle district in connection with the various systems of weighing, and it was desired that legislation should be introduced to provide for payment by weight in the skips at all collieries. If this were done all serious trouble would be obviated, because there had been established another Court which would deal with any other difficulty.

Mr. Bower endorsed what Mr. Curley had stated, and urged that the necessary amending legislation be introduced as soon as possible.

Mr. M. Charlton said the introduction of safety catches was compulsory in Western Australia and he also believed in Victoria. There had not been any accident in the Newcastle district owing to the absence of these catches, but there was great liability to serious accident. In dwelling on the subject of weighing, Mr. Charlton spoke of the alteration from the stationary to the shaking screen system, thence to the erection of hauling appliances at considerable distances from the pit mouth, and to the increased proportion of small produced thereby. He pointed out that small was worth from 5s to 6s per ton, and that it was therefore to the interest of the proprietors to get a good percentage of it. Some of the collieries were now weighing in the gross, and he believed with satisfaction to the proprietors and to the

110.

June 14, 1903. Yesterday Jinny posted a letter for Pat O'Grady, Kadina, & a book entitled "Wealth and Want", & a pamphlet on "Progress and Poverty", to refute the Single Tax doctrine.

My pay on Friday, the 12th was £ 4-2-7 clear. Jim Pitchford has opened a shop, near Jacobs', to sell lollies, pies, cooked meat, etc. Mrs. Hogg, relict of the late Wally Hogg, died suddenly last week. This morning I went to the Baptist Sunday School & taught the boys a lesson on Paul, entitled "Running the Race". I awarded my prize--a Testament-- to John Taylor. Jack's lad, Cecil, is very ill again with heart trouble. The weather is windy & cold to-day. Jinny is out somewhere with young Jose & baby Jack, who was born on the 27th of April, 1903. Bertie's head is not right yet.

I was visited yesterday by Mr. Paget, who is a palmist, clairvoyant, & Spiritualist. He wanted to read my hand, but I declined. He said his spirit guide is Ned Kelly, the bushranger, & told me to keep on in the course I am going on, & I shall conquer the evil spirit that comes to me. I dug a lot more in the garden yesterday.

Sat. July 25, 1903. This morning I wrote a short letter to Dr. W.S. Rice, Department 652, 8 & 9 Stonecutter Street, London, E.C., for a copy of his book on rupture.

Mon. Aug. 10, 1903. This evening we bought 12 hens of Will Scott for 24/-. Bob & I went with Jinny & Jose, in the sulky, & brought the fowls home. We lost one hen on the way. One hen has scaly legs.

Wed. Aug. 26, 1903. Elermore pit only worked half a day. George Britten was badly hurt on Thursday, in Maddison's pit, by a fall of coal. Five of our hens are laying, & we have had 33 eggs up to to-day. Rain has fallen nearly all day. I posted a letter, with 6/- in postal notes & 3d in stamps, to James Owen Moroney; also a letter to Anthony Horder asking the prices of incubators. Also a letter to Harry Toll inviting him to a meeting of our Socialist League, or to send us some copies of the "New York People". Likewise one to Dave McNeill, West Wallsend, re meeting.

Dec. 6, 1903. Sun. This is a list of hens set by us since we began to keep fowls. 1st. Gilmore's hen, set Sep. 8th, hatched 10 chicks on the 29th Sep., 8 of which survive. 2nd. Fordham's borrowed hen, set on duck eggs on Sep. 26 th, due Oct. 24, hatched 3, 2 alive now. 3rd. Gilpin's blind eye hen, set Oct. 11th, due Nov. 1, hatched 7 chicks; ~~5~~ 1 now alive. 4th. Scott's Brown hen, set Oct. 15; hatched 10 on Nov. 5: 6 alive. 5th. Our speckled hen, set Oct. 27, hatched 10 chicks on Nov. 17th, of which 5 remain. 6th. Our silver neck hen, set Oct.

28th, Hatched 10, 5 alive. 7th. ~~111.~~ Mother's black hen, set Nov. 4th, hatched 12 chicks on the 25th; 5 now alive. 8th. Our whitespeckled hen, hatched 10 chicks on Dec. 5, all are alive. 9th. Big cuckoo hen, set under house, on duck eggs, Nov. 8; due to-day. 10th. Our white hen with a few black feathers in her neck, set Nov. 20; due Dec. 11. 11th. Scaly -Legs. Set Dec. 5th; due 26th. We have now 45 chicks & 4 ducklings, besides 14 hens & 2 roosters.

Dec. 16, 1903. This is polling day for 3 senators & a member of the Federal House of Reps. I sent £ 4-5-0 to A. Hordern to-day for an incubator & a foster mother. I also sent £ 1-18-6 to Dr. Rice for his rupture cure. Yesterday we borrowed nine pounds 15 shillings from the Mont de Piete, Newcastle, for which we have to pay £ 3 in 12 months. 5/- office expenses had to be paid immediately in the office. The hen under the house hatched 6 ducklings.

Dec. 17, 1903. We worked to-day, but there will be no work to-morrow. We have received notice that we, the miners, will be reduced to 10/- for 8 skips; 1/3 per skip instead of 1/5³/₄.

Mar. 16, 1904. I wore my truss for the first time to-day, in the pit. It arrived from Dr. Rice, London, on Monday, & we had to pay 6/6 duty on it at the post office. Jinny posted 2 answers to puzzles in the "Herald".

Copy of part of a letter from Emily Matthews, probably written Kx in January, 1901.:-

"I will send you some papers, so you will be able to see for yourself what things are like here. There has been plenty of excitement here concerning the visit of the duke & duchess of York. Excursions to Adelaide to return for a fortnight. Such a lot went down to see them. None of us went. I did not feel much concerned about them. I would much rather see someone I know. Mother keeps splendid. How are all of your family? Remember us to Johnny & Bob, & tell your sister I'm still an old maid. We have had some splendid rains, & the weather is beautiful. I suppose Jose is in knickers. He must be a fine boy by this time. Sam Huxtable is back from the West; he came back very ill but is much better now. He was taken with dysentery, & his heart is affected. Alf & George are expected home this week. Their wives have been back for the past 6 months on visits; so the men are coming back to take their wives back to W.A. with them. Old Mr. Huxtable died 12 months ago. I suppose that is stale news to you. I think I have told you all the news at present. Hoping to hear from you soon, mother joins in sending her kindest love with me to you all. Believe us to ever to

1221

ever remain Yours sincerely Eliza & Emily Matthews. I hope you will write soon. I won' keep you so long waiting next time. Don't forget the photo, will you ?!

Mr. Estell, M.P., said it had certainly been intended that the Act should provide for the weighing of all mineral gotten. The friction between the masters and the men had been caused by that section of the owners who paid by yardage, and thus entered into unhealthy competition with others who paid by weight. He hoped that legislation to provide for a uniform system of weighing would be speedily passed. In regard to the safety catch question he felt sure that if it worked satisfactorily in Western Australia it would work successfully in New South Wales.

Mr. Griffith urged that the Minister should arrange for the introduction at an early stage of the incoming session of the proposed amending legislation, as that portion referring to weighing was simply to rectify a mistake in the drafting of the bill introduced by a former Minister. The safety catch system was introduced into Johannesburg during the brutal regime of Kruger, and it certainly should obtain in New South Wales.

Mr. Edden said the report of the departmental officers was clearly in favour of the request of the deputation in the matter of payment by weight.

THE MINISTER'S REPLY.

The Minister of Mines said he would give the representations of the deputation every consideration. He thought that every appliance tending to safeguard life should be introduced in our mines, and if safety catches were successful in Western Australia they should be introduced here. He would make full inquiry, and if he found the system was a good one he would have legislation framed to provide for it. He thought the miner should be paid for the full amount of his work, and it seemed very absurd to pay men only an eighth of a penny per ton for small coal. He would bring amending legislation before the Cabinet, and would endeavour to have a bill submitted as early as possible in the forthcoming session.

9, 1902

OPEN COLUMN.

~~9-8-1902~~
TO THE "PEOPLE."

Enclosed you will find a letter written by a South Australian comrade, which was published in the "Plain Dealer," a semi-democratic paper run by a soldier. The letter was written to introduce the subject of Socialism to the wage-slaves of York's Peninsula, who are as yet total strangers to it. I say wage-slaves advisedly, for in all Australia there are few men and boys—white, yellow, or black—who work so hard for so little and submit to so much tyranny and insult as those "Cousin Jacks," &c., of S.A. The wealthy Wallaroo and Moonta Copper Mining and Smelting Company practically holds in its hands the welfare of half the population of the three large towns of the Peninsula—Moonta, Kadina, and Wallaroo. Of course this rich and powerful company is patriotic. When the late Capitalists' War against High Wages was on and Mafeking was relieved, the company hoisted the non-Union Jack on its highest flag-taff to enable its slaves to behold the glorious flag and rejoice. And they did. One unfortunate miner emerged from a steaming shaft wet, dirty, and tired, and when he beheld the grand old flag of the free (!) waving aloft and learned that it was for the relief of Mafeking, he threw his hat high into the air and bawled hoo-ray! He was "some glad." But it never struck him that he and his fellows needed relief as much as Bathing Towel, the paper hero. He forgot

that he was so free and independent that he and his fellow-slaves were not allowed to form a Union. He forgot, in his patriotic excitement, that some of them were working in dangerous smoky places underground for as little as three shillings and 3 pence (3s 3d) per day to—What's that? You don't believe it? Well, here's the proof:

LOCAL COURT, KADINA.—Mitchell v. Walton. U.J.S. £6 15s 5d. Mr. Uffindell for plaintiff. Defendant said he made from 3s 3d to 4s per day at the mines. He had 25s for last week.

He had no children, but paid six shillings per week rent. To pay ten shillings per month.—"Plain Dealer," July 19, 1902.

Are you satisfied now? This man needed relief more than the besieged football-playing martyrs of Mafeking. And there are thousands of workers in Australia in the same condition, but they have no idea that there is a thing wrong with the social system that keeps them in poverty and slavery for the benefit of a few. "Billy Khan's" letter will help to open their eyes: here it is. ~~9-8-1902~~. J.C.

Class Consciousness.

TO THE EDITOR.

Blatchford asks: "Do we set class against class? Ought we to set class against class?" He answers both questions—under reserve—in the affirmative.

Ought we, the working or producing class, to set our class against the Capitalist or idle class? I answer undoubtedly we should, or rather, we should open the eyes of the working class to the fact that,

whether we will or not, the two classes are already, and have been all along, struggling for the mastery.

What is class-consciousness? There are two classes, and two only: The producing or working class, and the non-producing or Capitalist class.

A class-conscious working-class man is one who is conscious of the fact that by his industry he is enabling others (the non-producers) to live sumptuously without rendering to society a fair equivalent in return. A class-conscious non-producer is one who is conscious of the fact that the working class, by their industry and stupidity, render it unnecessary for him and his class to undertake their share of the work of production.

Of the Capitalist class, all are class-conscious. Of the working or producing class, very, very few. Of

the working class, the storekeepers, the farmers, the clerks, the clergymen, and other brain workers consider themselves above the so-called lower class, while their suffering are oftentimes quite as acute as the latter. They are the hope, and at the same the despair of the reformer. They have the brains to think out the problem for themselves, but a false conception of their class position blunts their perceptions and warps their judgment, rendering them an easy prey to the blandishments of the monopolist and exploiter, who, knowing the

power of their influence over the slaves on the bottom stave of the social and economic footway, exert all the power they possess to persuade them that their interests and those of the exploiter are mutual. And so the working class are diddled and insulted—could they but see it.

Victor Hugo said that "the rich will do anything for the poor except get off their backs." They will give a small part of the money that others have earned for them to churches, hospitals, and in alms, but they will not permit the people to get that which is their own.

Which is better—to establish a system that will guarantee to every man the full reward of his labor, or to continue the present system of robbery with its alms-giving? But a system which will be absolutely fair and just, protecting childhood and old age, giving equal opportunity to earn a living to all, making charity unnecessary, is called Socialism. It will not permit the idle rich class to live in princely luxury on the earnings of the working class. It will remove the rich from the backs of the poor. Can you wonder, then, that the exploiting class hate and misrepresent it? But if you love justice and hate oppression you will investigate it.

Yes, I am class-conscious, but I would point out that the exploiting class are comparatively few, and the working class—the exploited—are many, who will one day recognise their class interests. Then, but not till then, will real prosperity be ushered in.

"BILLY KHAN."

Kadina, July 13, 1902

SAFETY CATCHES.

Thurs. May 8th 1902.

SUGGESTED CONFERENCE.

SYDNEY, Wednesday.

A reply has been received by Mr. A. Edden, M.P., from the Mines Department in regard to the question recently brought before the Minister of Mines as to the desirability of applying safety catches to cages in mines. The Under-Secretary states:—"The miners in the Newcastle district have represented to this department that it is highly important that the use of safety catches on cages should be compulsory in all coal mines, and have urged that legislation should be framed to give effect to their views. It has been ascertained beyond doubt, however, that there is great divergence of opinion amongst the general body of mining men on the question of the value of safety catches, and it is therefore desirable that the views of the representatives of each branch of the coal mining industry should be made known before the Secretary for Mines would be warranted in taking decisive measures to comply with the wishes of the Newcastle miners."

"I am therefore desired to say that the Minister would be glad if a conference could be arranged to take place between representatives of the coal miners on the one side and of the colliery owners and managers on the other. Every facility would be given by the department in arranging such a meeting, and the services of the professional officers of the branch concerned would be at the disposal of the conference."

21-10- SAFETY CATCHES. 1902.

Sir.—I beg to refer to your report appearing in last Monday's issue of the conference between managers and miners on the above subject, more particularly to that portion dealing with the demonstration shown through the medium of the model safety-cage there produced, as otherwise it (the report) seems somewhat vague. First, in relation to rail guides placed to run in the ends of cages, I stated that if those rails were backed by 5 x 3 wooden guides the grippers could be so set as to bite into them in case of accident, while for running purposes the

Splendid Dairy Farm

ABCTION SALES.

NEWCASTLE MORNING

Does it discover anything new or improved in this present advanced age?—
am, &c.

E. E. HILLMAN.

should be as efficient as before. Further, your report says that the model provided for the grippers. This is hardly correct, as that portion of my remarks applied only to cages made to run between wire guides, in which instance it could be done, all sixteen being made to work in unison, on the same principle as the four shown in the model. But, in preference to this, I recommended that safety wooden guides should be placed to run in the ends, retaining the wire guides for ordinary work, and using the wooden ones only in the event of accident. They

ESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1902.

comes the rather damaging statement of the chairman, that " the main principles of the model before them were very old." With all due deference to the ability and experience of Mr. Pittman, I must give this an emphatic denial, for a patent would not have been granted in any of our States were his allegation true. The chairman also remarked that " it appeared to him that if there were likely to be any advantage from safety catches, it would have been discovered before now." If that argument were sound, Mr. Editor, where would be the use of endeavouring to discover anything new or improved in this present advanced age?—I am, &c.,

E. E. HILLMAN.

bit. If I was their husbands I would make them do it. I am so sorry your daughter is too weak. I hope she will get on all right soon. I have received the three photos of your little grandchildren, & we received the papers all right. I should think you had a nice lot of places there. The people say that that country looks very much like this country. You would not know the town if you came home, it is altered so much -- hardly an old house left -- all new & higher. I will send you 2 newspapers now, so you can see the news about this part. You wanted to know about Walter's health. He is very well able to eat & drink. I don't know what he would be like if he had to work double like your husband. I had a letter from Billy. When he wrote he was very ill. How he is now I can't tell: I hope he is better. I had a letter from Robert. Two of his children got married this last year -- son & daughter. He has six at home with him now; they are all very well. Ann Stevens is living in the same house, up at Saint Day, as when you left home. You would not know Wiljewel Row now it is done up. Now, if ever I can get the view of St. Day I will send it to you, but I never see it anywhere. You asked about Catherine. We don't don't hear anything of her. The times here are very dull; scores of men out of work. We will close with love to you all. Write soon From your affectionate brother & sister, Walter & Grace Perkins. Good bye!

Copy of Kate Reed's letter:-

"Lithgow, 1/6/1903. Dear Mary Jane & Joe, I take the pleasure of answering your kind & welcome letter which I received some months ago, hoping it will find you all well, as it leaves us at present. I suppose you thought I was never going to write to you any more, but things have been so dull here that I did not think it worth writing. Pearl was ill for a little while, & I was not well for a couple of months I thought it was no use writing & worrying you with my troubles, as I thought you would have enough of your own. I hope Mary Jane is over her trouble. Now, Joe, I hope you have given up your spiritualistic writing, for I think it is very foolish to sit & listen to such a thing as that. It must be worse than old Nick, for I am satisfied no spirit would write such rot. I am sure Jack is happy in Heaven. He did nobody any harm, & I don't see what there was to keep him from being happy. So I think, Joe, that it is a lot of folly; for Mr. Pettinger, the minister, told me that he knew that Jack is happy, for he prayed with him before he died. What Lance Allison, or the spirit, wrote about me was a lot of folly, for if it was Lance Allison he knew better than that. I do nobody harm. I have enough to do to work for myself & my children without thinking of lies. So, dear Joe, I hope you will not waste your time listening to a thing

like that. I don't want you to ever tell me anything it says about Jack. I know it is not true; but it upsets me. You said Josey said he wanted to know if the children said their prayers at night, going to bed. They have said them ever since they could talk, & they go to church & Sunday school. It is very wet & cold here. I wish the Summer here again. It is so cold to go out washing. I think that is all this time. Write soon. From your ever-loving sister & children, Kate Reed.

(Answered July 25, 1903.)

Copy of Pittman's letter:-

"New South Wales . Department of Mines & Agriculture, Sydney. 17th Sept. 1904. Sir, With reference to your letter of the 13th instant stating that you desire some information to guide you where to prospect for minerals, I am forwarding to you, by direction of the Minister, under separate cover, a copy of "The Mineral Resources Of New South Wales", which Mr. Moore hopes you will find of service. Will you kindly sign & return the enclosed printed receipt form, which is required for purposes of record. I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant, E.F.Pittman., Under Secretary,"

Copy of my letter to ~~Pittman~~ - S.W. Moore:-

"Reference number G S 04/2391. Wallsend, N.S.W. Sep. 20, 1904. Hon. S.W. Moore, Minister for Mines, Sydney. Dear Sir, I take this, the earliest opportunity to return my sincere thanks for the beautiful & useful book on "The Mineral Resources Of N.S.W.", which arrived yesterday. I have not had time to read much of the book yet, but what little I have read convinces me is well qualified to fill the position Government Geologist; & his photos prove that he is a very good photographer also. I am an amateur photographer & know a good photo when I see it. I met Mr. Pittman at Newcastle in September, 1902 at a conference of miners' representatives & Colliery managers, of which he was chairman. We met at the Trades Hall to discuss the necessity for the Coal Mines Regulation Act to be amended by the insertion of a clause to provide that safety-catches should be put on all cages in which miners descend or ascend shafts. For some mysterious reason opposed the miners & seemed to think that we had not enough danger without daily dangling over sudden death on a worn wire rope. I admire the gentleman's great abilities, & would be sorry to find him again such a humane & necessary provision in the Act. Now, Sir, as you are desirous of making improvements in mining & in the laws relating thereto, I would respectfully ~~suggest~~ suggest that you would erect a permanent memorial to your name as Minister ~~for Mines~~ for Mines by having the present Act amended

to provide for the compulsory use of safety-catches in the mines of the State. Some of the Lithgow collieries have been supplied with Hillman's safety cages; & so far as I know they are working satisfactorily. Of course Mr. Hillman is nothing to me-- not even a friend-- & I simply mention his catches because they are absolutely reliable, & very simple, & not too expensive for any company to buy. Hoping that you will bear this matter in mind when framing your Amended Mining Bill, & again heartily thanking you for your kindness & promptitude in sending the book, I remain, Sir, Yours gratefully, Josiah Cocking, Wallsend, N.S.W."

SAFETY CATCHES ON CAGES.

Feb 27 1901

Sir,—To anyone who is acquainted with the mines of Victoria, South Australia, or Westralia, it is evident that the mining companies of New South Wales are many years behind the times in one important matter. In those three States the mining companies, having a commendable regard for the safety of their valuable property, and a humane desire to guard the lives of those whose labour is the source of dividends, have fitted up the man-gigs, or cages, in which the employees are lowered and raised through the shafts, with cheap, reliable safety-catches. Those catches are so constructed that in the event of the hauling rope or chain breaking (which it is liable to do at any moment when working) the jaws of the catches will firmly grip the runners or guides on which the cage works, and hold it securely in the shaft until the men can get out of their perilous position; and thus save the cage, the shaft timber, and the men from certain destruction.

Some people may argue that such safety-catches are not required, or that if required they are not reliable. I will reply, in anticipation to these objections, and relate an instance in Westralia. At a mine in W.A. it happened one day that the inevitable breakage of the hauling rope occurred when a cage full of men was being hauled up the shaft. They were terribly frightened, but only for a moment, for instead of being dropped with lightning rapidity into the "darkness deep as death," and there dashed into shapeless fragments, the safety catch with which the prudent proprietors had furnished the cage had acted with unerring precision, and held it with a vice-like grip on the runners. Had there been no catch on the cage the proprietors would have lost far more, through the wrecking of the cage and the smashing of timber, than the price of the safety-catch; and the wives or relatives of the men would have lost those whom they probably regard as being more valuable than the mine and its hidden treasures.

Miners have quite enough dangers to face without the wholly unnecessary risk of being dropped to the bottom of a deep shaft

through the breakage of a rope or chain. Statistics prove that the occupation of a miner is more dangerous than that of a soldier. Let those who doubt this read the history of mining, or that excellent pamphlet entitled "Labour's Death Roll," by John Burns, M.P. I have no desire to alarm miners, or to berate proprietors for their neglect to provide proper appliances to ensure safety for employees riding in gigs or cages. I simply wish to emphasise the fact that the necessity exists, and the time has arrived, to amend the present Coal Mines Regulation Act, by the addition of a clause to provide that all gigs or cages in which persons are lowered or raised through any shaft in New South Wales shall be furnished with reliable automatic safety-catches, which shall be examined and tested by an engineer at least once a week. This would be no injustice or hardship to the proprietors of mines, for it would really be a form of insurance against loss through wreckage of cages and expensive shaft timber, and against loss of valuable time. To miners of all kinds it would be the removal of one more danger from the mines. I hope that the miners of New South Wales will force this matter on the attention of their parliamentary representative, and that they will not neglect it until some terrible disaster occurs, and then cry, in a vain endeavour to exonerate themselves, like the boy who shot his father, "I didn't know it was loaded!"

—I am, &c.

Josiah Cocking CAPITAL I.

Socialist Labour Party.—Senatorial Candidates.

MESSRS. H. E. HOLLAND and A. THOMSON will address the Electors as follows:—

TU-NIGHT (Saturday), Newcastle, Wolfe-street, 7.30 o'clock.

MONDAY, Mar. 25th: 1901

Wallsend, D. Howard's Balcony, 7.30 p.m. Educational addresses will be delivered at the following places on **SUNDAY, Mar. 24th** :—

Carlington, No. 11 Crane, 10.30 a.m.
Easton Park, at 3 p.m.

Thorn's Hill, Young's Hall, 7.30 p.m.
J. COCKING, Sec.

SUFFERING

And A Radical Cure.

Dec. 28th 1901.

The Case of

Mrs. ELIZABETH GILES.

(Reported for the "Sun.")

I am sure you will not find a more remarkable case of sickness, recovery and 'than mine' in all your travels," said s. Elizabeth Giles, of Devon Street, Pittsburg, when she was seen by our reporter; and after hearing a statement of case he was much inclined to share his outspoken opinion.

"I am not a young girl, as you can see," said Mrs. Giles, alluding to her own portly form. "I am Cornish bred and born, but I have been a great many years in this country. I am the mother of four, now grown up and settled in life, and until a few years ago I did not know what it was to have a day's sickness; then, prompted by the demon of misfortune, we went to live in a newly built brick house near the end of the tram line and took it for twelve months. This house was damp, the walls streamed, even our beds were damp. The result was I contracted a severe attack of rheumatic gout, and thus arose all my troubles. For when I was better of the rheumatism, it was only to find myself a martyr to kidney disease, heart weakness, and dropsy; also indigestion in its severest form. Gradually the water began to accumulate in my body; my limbs became the size of pillows—and large pillows at that—my circumference was vast. Continually my dresses had to be made bigger and bigger; finally, I could have filled a small room. Of course, I was perfectly helpless, and could not dress myself or bend my unwieldy body. My skin became the colour of an orange, and all round my eye: was as black as a man's hat. My appearance was something awful, and when I looked at myself in the mirror I cried. For I could not look at my presentment and think for a moment there was any hope; and more than once I told my boys they would soon have to leave me in the churchyard. During the four years that I was drifting into this awful state I never wore boots or stockings: it was simply out of the question to have got sizes to fit me."

"What were your other symptoms, Mrs. Giles?" asked the reporter. "I had a terrible cough that racked and shook me and made my sides ache and weary with coughing. My heart would beat quite audibly, so that it could be heard like the tick, tick, tick, of an old Dutch clock. And when I had my spasms of wind, my heart, or the place above it, would swell up the size of a billy-can. I think it was indigestion caused this wind; I could eat nothing that would agree with me; even dry bread, upon which at last I entirely lived—if you can call that living, in which all the day and the longer night was a weariness and despair. I had always been of a bilious temperament, even as a child, and now my nerves were all of a tremble. I could not sleep at all—sweet rest seemed to have abandoned me for ever. I would sit by the bedside two hours at a time bringing up wind and the everlasting gas that bred

in my stomach. There I would be helpless and straining till I got black in the face. Then there were cramping pains in the legs and toes, and my skin would itch with an irritation that was maddening. I had that pain across the loins called the kidney pain, and it darted into me like a knife. And with all this, or because of all this, I had no strength in my back and legs; I was quite limp and weak as a little child. At the last I was eleven weeks helpless in bed and motionless as a log. I myself and

all who knew me made sure my last hours were close at hand."

"What treatment did you try, Mrs. Giles; for, of course, treatment was tried?"

"That is quite true; for four years I was under medical care at home and at the hospital. I am sure they gave me the benefit of all the skill and kindness within their power; but mine was a case, as their four years of ill success proved, clearly beyond the bounds of medical help—one that called for some remedy not known in the pharmacy of the faculty. I had come to that pass, and to that place that might be called the stepping-stone to the grave, when I was visited by one of our church members—Mr. Hooper—who said:—'Mrs. Giles, I have come to see you to tell you of a medicine that has saved my life—the very best medicine in the world, I do believe.' And then he told me all about his rescue from sickness, and the name of the remedy that had done this thing was Clements Tonic. Buoyed with a new hope, as a drowning man will catch at a straw, I sent for a bottle of Clements Tonic and began taking it."

"And what was the result?" enquired the deeply interested reporter.

"Why, after only taking one bottle I could get about, and crossing the room I noticed a pin on the floor; I stooped and picked it up—a thing I had not done for four years. This greatly pleased my boys, who saw me do it."

"See if you can pick up a dozen three-penny bits, mother?" they said, throwing some of the coins on the floor. "I did manage to pick up two, and we were all so pleased, for I never thought to be able to bend like that again. After that I continued to get steadily better and better. I lost my trembling nervousness, I was able to eat all kinds of food, and the dreadful wind that generated in my stomach was subdued. Now I could eat fried or roast, baked or boiled. The clock-like 'ticking' of the heart ceased, and I no longer puffed out in a huge lump with wind. My cough went and the pain in the loins, and I could sleep of nights; but greatest blessing of all, my huge girth began to contract. I was soon quite lost in my clothes, they were all too big for me. My change in every way was simply wonderful. My boys rejoiced at my appearance, never failing, without my telling, to see me supplied with Clements Tonic."

"I should like to make your great recovery known to the world, Mrs. Giles."

Year of the reign of her present Majesty, intimated
"An Act for the more efficient abolition of Oaths
and Affirmations taken and made in the various
Departments of the Government of New South Wales,
and to substitute Declarations in lieu thereof, and for
the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial Oaths
and Affidavits."

Elizabeth Giles.

Declared at Pittsburg, this 14th day of September,
one thousand eight hundred and ninety nine, before
me, THOMAS ABEL, J. P.

"You may publish it how you like, and you may add that I am a living proof of the virtues of Clements Tonic."

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, Elizabeth Giles, of Devon-street, Pittsburg, New-castle, in the Colony of New South Wales, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have carefully read the annexed document, consisting of four folios, and consecutively numbered from one to four, and that it contains and is a true and faithful account of my illness and cure by Clements Tonic, and also contains my full permission to publish the same in any way, and I make this solemn declaration voluntarily and without receiving any payment, conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act made and passed in the ninth

119.

H 8, 1905.

ARBITRATION.

ITS ECONOMIC INUTILITY.

BY PETER BOWLING.

It has been shown that the Arbitration Court can neither assert its powers against constitutional law or enforce its awards against the will of the proprietors, and this article is intended to show, further, that the very nature of society prevents even the possibility of establishing a Court the personnel of which can be entirely free from bias on one side or the other. This in itself is partially due to the present constitution of the Court, and goes to show that, although the Court is unconsciously, yet the "class nature" of society were recognised to a certain extent by the framers of the Arbitration Act, their recognition of this potent cause and a thorough knowledge of the class nature of society and the cause of the disease, with a clear conception of the powers and powers of the Court, could have shown the doctors who framed this patent political nostrum the uselessness of attempting by such feeble methods to cure the ills which are inherent in the present capitalist system.

No doubt it takes both time and trouble to dig deep enough, in order to acquire a thorough grasp of the fundamental cause which produces the effects that the workers all over the commercial world suffer from, and the modern legislator is so anxious to do "something now" for the workers that he blindly "rushes in where angels fear to tread," with the usual result in such cases. It seldom occurs to people of this description that it is at all necessary to understand the disease from which the patient is suffering before applying their remedy. Yet this is just what should occur to anyone who honestly desires to do his duty to his fellow-man, and, whatever may be said to the contrary, as much blame attaches to the man who, by ill-considered legislation, wrecks the chances of the workers as should attach itself to the seaman who, by unskillful navigation, wrecks the vessel he has command of. In order to get a clear knowledge of the situation, it is necessary that the economic basis of society and the class nature of the struggle which we see everywhere around us should be explained as far as possible. Probably exception may be taken to the introduction of economics into the question, yet as the Act attempts to deal with effects which are directly due to present day economic causes, and also, presumably, assumes the position of settling the class struggle which is the natural result of the above cause, it is certainly within the province of this article to deal with the matter.

It will be admitted that society is ever changing, that times are different now to what they were a generation ago. Again, a generation ago times were different from a hundred years before, and so on, right back, the changes are apparent, and the

further we go back the more marked is the difference. The mode of life, the laws, in fact the whole social structure has changed completely. That this is so history bears abundant proof, and it entirely removes, whatever fears may be entertained by the timid, in regard to the prudence of assisting to change the present order of things, more particularly when conditions are such that a change is absolutely necessary, in the interests of the general body of the people. Naturally the question will be asked—What is

it that will bring about those alterations and determine when a change is not only necessary but inevitable? The answer to this question is to state one of the fundamental facts upon which the science of economics builds. It is held that the methods and means man uses to sustain life is the sociological law that changes the form of, and changes society in general. With each change in the tools man uses to procure things necessary to his existence, there necessarily comes a change in the whole social system. To thoroughly grasp this fact helps and assists the student of history to understand clearly what would otherwise seem a paradox. If we go back to prehistoric times we find that our ancestors were cannibals. Cannibalism was not then, as it would be now, immoral, because no better use could then be made of the captive in the interests of his captor. The prisoners of war could not then be turned into slaves, because at that stage the savage was barely able to procure subsistence enough to satisfy his own personal needs, and it was only when the tools of production developed sufficient to enable the individual to produce a little more than was absolutely necessary for his own maintenance that cannibalism passed away and slavery began. It was then to the interest of the captor to allow his prisoner to live and work as his slave. Thus a change from cannibalism to slavery was brought about clearly by the change in the tools of production.

The change from nomadic life to agricultural life, which formed the basis of what may be called society, and helped to centralise and conserve the powers of the ruling class, was only made possible by the further development of the means of production. Thus society advanced to civilised slavery, simply because of the introduction of improved methods of wealth production and the cupidity of the then rulers. Innumerable illustrations could be given to prove that material progress is due almost entirely to the development of industrial implements, but in no case is it so apparent as in the displacement of slavery, and the substitution of present day capitalism. In the early part of last century slavery was considered right and proper, and none could be heard denouncing this system, which to-day is looked upon as cruelly unjust and immoral. True there were men in those days who deplored the cruelties inflicted on the slaves, and endeavoured to mitigate the evils of the slave system, possibly by some piece of patchwork legislation, like what is attempted to-day by their lineal descendants, but it was never considered that the evil lay, not in the abuses of slavery, but in the existence of the system itself. The first man known to modern history, Dr. Wilberforce, who dared to proclaim that the system of chattel slavery should be abolished, was met with the bitterest denunciations from all quarters. It was

human slavery vanished, and in the clash which followed slavery fell before the advancing forces of industrial development. Since then every phase of political life has been greatly determined by the development of the machinery of production. Protection and Free-trade are but the natural corollary of the stage which industrialism has reached, and to-day the production of wealth has reached to such great dimensions through the perfection of machinery that territorial expansion is now the cry in every capitalist country.

openly preached from pulpit, platform, and press, that he was an arch enemy to society, and that if the slaves were liberated the whole fabric of society, vested interests included, would collapse. But unknown to those alarmists, although apparent to many, the factor which was to liberate the chattel slave was rapidly developing. With the introduction of steam and machinery new conditions clashed with old notions. A new code of morals forced itself as a result, the necessity for

ARBITRATION.

EVOLUTION OF CAPITALISM.

BY PETER BOWLING.

No. VI.

History proves that the "Manchester" doctrine of identity of interests, as between labour and capital, is absolutely false. That big dividends to the capitalist mean increased wages and better conditions to the worker, even a cursory glance at the blood-stained course of capitalism in "Merrie England," will entirely disprove. When dividends reached even higher than 200 per cent, the condition of the worker, the "brother" (?) of the capitalist was such that chattel slavery would have been infinitely preferable. It is very much like attempting to kill a dead dog to adduce arguments against this doctrine, yet so often is it resurrected by the apologists of capitalism that it becomes a duty to do so. As an instance, even with the last decade the exposures in connection with one factory show that the comparatively large dividends of from 20 to 30 per cent "appropriated" by the shareholders, did not conduce to the material welfare of the operatives. According to the published report of the commission appointed to inquire into the matter, the most horrible conditions possible to be imagined prevailed. Death in its most hideous form was there, as a result of the conditions imposed, while the poverty, misery, and wretchedness exposed roused an indignation of protest throughout England. Not much appearance of identity of interests in that picture, yet a great many of those shareholders who lived lives of luxury upon the wealth "appropriated" by them from those workers were (to their shame be it said) ministers of the Government.

A meeting of the Wallsend and Plattsburgh Social Literary and Debating Society was recently held in the Masonic Hall, Metcalf-street, the president, Mr. W. Stewart, being in the chair. The business of the evening was a debate on the "Survival of the Fittest." Mr. Cocking opened in the negative. Dealing with

Natural History, he strove to disprove the Darwinian theory. He contended that in the struggle for existence the weakest, although often the fittest were crushed, and in time of war the strong fight, and are killed, while the weakest flee and are saved. The mammoth species of animals and trees now extinct and replaced by smaller life, formed evidence, in his opinion, of the non-survival of the fittest. Again, the microbe or germ of no intellect, and the most unfit, was the destroyer of intellectual humanity. The world had degenerated from the higher civilisation of former days, as evidenced by the lost arts of history, and by the survival of the unfit. Mr. Henry opposed in the affirmative. He contended that the fittest did not always mean the best of the strongest, but that which showed the greatest adaptability to its surroundings. The mammoth species were extinct because there was no use for them, and they were, therefore, although the largest, not the fittest. Climatic changes found the giant in his birthplace, inferior to his puny antagonist in the land of his adoption, not because he was not the largest, but because he was not the fittest for his surroundings. Other speakers who spoke were Messrs. Huntley, Moran, and Stewart, in the affirmative, and Mr. J. Truscott in the negative. The leaders replied, after which a vote was taken, and a large majority declared in favour of Mr. Henry's contention that the fittest do survive. Miss Brown played an overture, and also the accompaniment to Mr. Crisp.

That all this affects the question under discussion is, perhaps, difficult to see, yet it follows that if changes have been brought about because of the change in the system of production, it naturally proves that with fresh developments in that direction new ideas will prevail, and the greater the progress in that direction the less necessity will there be apparent, for a system which produces wealth in abundance for all, and at the same time starves its millions, and robs the producers of wealth of everything which goes to make life enjoyable. Instead of tinkering with Arbitration Acts, which cannot affect the position so far as the industrial progress of the world is concerned, it would be well

for those who profess to have the welfare of the workers at heart, to take advantage of every advance made by economic progress, and legislate to secure for the workers the full fruits of their labour. It is not in the abuses of the present system that the real evil exists. Like chattel slavery, it is the system itself that stands condemned, because it is unnecessary; and it is pure foolishness to shirk the question, and endeavour by palliatives to cure the evils which can only be cured by a complete revolution of the social system. That the private ownership of, and development of, machinery, is the principal factor which divides society into classes, and causes, the Labour troubles so-called will be shown further on to be inherent and inseparable from the system; and all legislation which attempts to harmonise their opposing interests, will be only so much wasted energy.

John Jackson & George Robinson left Wallsend for West Aus. on Fri. Aug 18th, 1905. I gave Jack "How to Keep Heat Dry"; "Father Matthew";

"Mind, Body, and Soul"; & pamphlets on Mineralogy. Also a compass.

I started to work with Jack Hoone in Minnie colliery on

Sept. 26th 1905; and left there on Oct. 9 1905, and started to work with John

Hughes in Edermore Vale pit on Oct. 9th 1905. Lent Peattie our incubator Oct. 19, 1905, for 9 weeks trial. Sold out to Mat Pettigrew 17.5.1907.

104. / 122.

Copy of a letter from Cousin Elizabeth Buettner, the only daughter of Uncle John Rowe, to Mother in 1896.

"724 South Street, San Jose, Cal. U.S.A.

Dear Uncle & Aunt, Just a year & a half ago we received a good long letter from you. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves for not answering it. The excuse is this :- Papa & Mama feel they can't compete with your letter-writer, which I believe is my cousin, & I don't get much time for letter-writing. This is the first I have attempted in 4 years. It is hard, too, for me to write to someone I have never seen, even if they are so close related to me. It was the same with uncle Bob & his folks. For years we lived just 75 miles apart & felt like strangers until just 2 years ago he made us a short visit. I wish you could have seen him, Auntie, walking down the street, a man of 240 pounds, hollering you could hear him all over the place. He don't care for anyone or anything, the folks say, "just as he was when a boy". Two of his sons live here in town now. So I wish you folks, too, were nearer to us. I think it is awful when families have to live so far apart. I am glad that I have no brothers or sisters if that is the way we all have to do. I have heard Papa & Mama talk of you folks from babyhood. How Mama went with you a short way when you left England,; & a thousand other things. But the joke is, Auntie, they can't realise how you changed your name, & what happened to Tommy Cocking. Papa can't recognise your picture, & said he don't believe it is you. We all laugh at him because you & Papa look alike, & you, to me (in the bonnet) look like Grandma did in her picture. I, in fact ~~all~~ we all, like you best in the hat. Mama don't wear bonnets either; she thinks her face is too big. You can't beat her in fat, or white hair, she has both. Mama is pretty nice-looking, if I do say it, & only wish that if I live to her age I will look so well. Mama is neither well or sick. Some days she feels bad but never has to stay in bed overtime of a morning, not once. And as for Papa, he has never been in bed sick a day since he left England, & never took a bit of medicine. He is as fat as a pig. We call him ironsides. He walks 2 miles a day & over. He has not worked for years, has nothing to do, & a good living, & never worries over a thing. He goes to church every Sunday & often to meeting during the week. Mama don't get out very often; but you can live a good Christian life at home as well as in the church; & if there is a Heaven they will go there. They often talk about the goodness of Grandfather Robert Rowe. They are Methodists. Of course you know that Mana's sister Elizabeth has been dead for years. She left 2 children--both married, & one is a grand mother now, of 4 children. Double married again & has since died. After Mama came to California they wandered about & at last settled down in Almaden till just 4 years ago. When I

nos. 123

got married they left the old home & came to San Jose. We are living together in a comfortable way. You know the folks are not English any more, quite American. We celebrated our independence on the 4th of this month. Mama has no use for England. Never heard her say once she would like to go back. Papa says as she says. He is like his father--quiet as a mouse. You would never think uncle Bob & he were brothers. I forgot to tell you that I have the best man in all the world. He is just as good & kind to Papa & Mama as if they were his own people. He is German, & they, as you know, are hard to beat. We are going to take some pictures & send you; then you can judge for yourselves the bunch you are anxious to hear from.

I think this scribble will let me out. You will never want to hear from me again. I am only playing introduction to the rest of the crowd. We will send some of our local papers to the big cousin of mine, too. You know we live in the most glorious place in the world-- a land of fruit & flowers. The yeararound travellers from all over the world go wild with delight when they visit San Jose. Wish we had some snapshots of some of the pretty places around us. In California are raised peaches, cherries, apples in abundance. We can ride a few minutes from home, reach an orchard & see it loaden with fruit, go in & pick & eat, & bring home all we want, with not a fence or line from the roads to stop us. Last year I put up in bottles 350 quarts of mixed fruits, & it never cost me a penny; only the picking. What do you think of that for a free country? No English fences here to keep out the poor. There is not a fence or hedge in all the United States to keep out the gaze of the poor class as in England. The rich people here are proud to show their homes. Santa Clara County is noted the world over for her prunes (French) a most delicious dried fruit. It has been perfected by years of study & been the means of making a name for California. My husband is an experienced fruit man.

Mama said to tell you that after her sister Elizabeth died 40 years ago, 2 years after Double sent to England for Nany Whipern, a sister to Amelia & Elizabeth Whipern (they kept a millinery store in Saint Day) later on they left Almaden, went to Chili, & he died shortly after. Mama also wants to know if you remember the time when you & she knocked at Jimmy Dunstan's door & asked if Jimmy was at home.

Now for my new Uncle. We think from the bottom of our hearts that he is a good man. Glad that you have been so fortunate to get someone so good & kind to you. Mama is telling me a 100 things to tell you; but I am going down town now & will mail this & write again in a few days when we can get the pictures for you. Mama wants me to tell you that we have no children but we have parrot. Auntie, you ought to hear him talk! We have had it 2 years, & it can say everything. It is as much company to Mama & Papa as a child would be. It was just 6

124.
months old when we had it. When you come to California I would be glad to put him on exhibition for you. Papa wants to know how long you have been married to this new uncle ?

Now this is a long letter for you, & forgive us for not writing to you before. I wish you could send all your pictures. My name, Auntie, is Beuttner. Of course you know they called me after you. When you write address 724 South Sixth Street, San Jose, Cal. U.S.A. Your loving Neice, Lizzie Buettner ."

Copy of a letter from uncle Robert Rowe ,:-

" Crockett, Cal. U.S.A. Aug. 27, 1907. To Mr Josiah Cocking. Dear Sir, Your letter was received in due course & read with interest & pleasure by all, as we have often heard Papa speak of his sister Elizabeth in Australia; but of course never having received a letter from her we did not know what family she had. I think I had better explain why I am writing this letter before I proceed any further. All our married life, which was 37 years last June, Mr. Rowe has had me do the writing for him as much as possible. I object quite often, as he himself is a fine penman, & I think he should do it. So you will understand why I am writing & answering his letter received from you. But he always says we are partners & Co. I suppose you would like to know what your uncle is doing in California, He is melter & refiner for a smelting Co. in Crockett, & has been with this Co. for 21 years, & previous to that was an employee of United States Mint, doing about the same kind of work, & , as I stated before, has been married 37 years; & we have 8 children. Four are married & 4 at home, & we have 5 grandchildren. So you see we are a large family. But Papa is the largest of all, as he weighs 210 pounds, so you see he is quite large.

And you wanted to know about uncle John Rowe. Papa & I have just returned from making them a visit. They live at San Jose , about 60 miles from here; & we had a very nice time with them & enjoyed it very much. They are a dear old couple. They have one married daughter that lives near them. They have only the one daughter. Uncle John is looking very well, but his wife is quite an invalid, & has been for some time. I think they would be pleased to hear from you.

You asked for our photos. I am sorry that we have none that we can send you now, but will be pleased to send them at some future time; & if you have a family we would be pleased to have you send a likeness of yourself & family; also of sister Elizabeth & family. Will you give her our love & tell her was so pleased to hear from her through her son. I think uncle William Rowe's folks don't want to correspond with relations, as I wrote several letters before his death, & since, but have received no answer. Aunt Grace in England is good for writing. We are always glad to get a letter from her. I suppose your mother must be a very old lady, as Papa tells us she is his oldest sister.

125.

I would like to meet her very much. I hope this letter will find you all well, as it leaves us all fairly so, excepting our youngest daughter, Ethel. who has been quite sick for the past week but is feeling some better to-day, & we hope she will soon be well again. Now, dear nephew, Mr. Rowe & myself will be pleased to hear from you at any time, & I hope you will write us often. So I will close with love from us all to you. We remain in future your loving uncle & aunt, Mary & Robert Rowe."

Letter from aunt Grace to Mother:-

"Jenkins Terrace, Redruth, Cornwall, Ap. 2. 1907.

Dear sister & brother, We now answer your letter, & are glad that you are better, & hope you will continue so. I should have written before, but have been very poorly. We have had a lot of sickness & deaths since Christmas. I am proud to see you have such good children. I hope your daughter-in-law has got used to you. I had a letter from brother Robert & family, & one from Billy's family. They are all well. Billy's son Arthur has one little boy, & in June expects another baby. I have written to them several times & asked them to write to you. We don't know anything about John-- whether he is alive or dead. You asked about Ann Stevens' sister. She has been dead many years, also her husband. They have 2 daughters living in Camborne; 1 is married. When I see Ann I will ask her for a photo. When I got your letter I was disappointed to not see your face on the card, but I thank you for them. The mines here are brighter, but almost everything is raise in price. You speak about Walter not saying much. He speaks when the spirit moves. He is the same as when you were here. We hope you will live many years yet. The last photos we had were John's 2 girls & an old lady & gent we don't know. Would much like to see you once more to chat about olden times, but I don't suppose I shall now. On bank holiday Walter & I went up Carn Brea, & I was wishing you were there. Mr. Dunn took the chair. They had a nice sermon, & hundreds of people were up there. Give our kind love to your daughter, Elizabeth Jane, & family. Hope you will not keep us waiting as long as we have kept you. I have no more news to tell you for this time. I must now come to a close. Walter sends his love to all. No more from your loving sister & brother, Grace & Walter Perkyns."

Another letter from aunt Grace to Mother:-

"Jenkins Terrace, Redruth, Cornwall, Aug. 10, 1907.

Dear sister & brother, We now answer your kind & welcome letter. Sorry to hear that you are not much better. I see you have a good heart still, like you had when you were at home. You say you have got a beautiful garden. I should like to be there to have some of the fruit. You said about your temperance meeting you had. I should like to have been there with you when you

gave that speech. They will never do away with the drink at home or abroad. It is very nice that you can go out a little to hear a bit of singing or anything. You say you have got good sons: you must ask them to club together & buy an invalid chair, & then your husband can wheel you out.

I suppose you can remember the day you were married. You were married in the morning & went to Falmouth in the afternoon. Walter & I went to Falmouth on August bank holiday & we were sitting down on the quay & watching the boats going out, & I thought about you very much. I have not heard from any of our brothers since I wrote to you last. I am very sorry indeed to hear that your son Robert has lost his wife-- a nice young woman like that. It must have been a great trial. They are 2 very pretty little boys. We are sorry Robert cannot get a suitable person to look after his boys. If he were home here he would not have any trouble to get anyone. Tell Robert to send home his photo, & we will see what we can do. I have not seen Ann Stevens yet, but when I see her I will ask her about the photo of the old lady & gentleman that you sent home. I don't know them, but I fancy I have seen them before.

My dear sister, you said you have got a good husband, & I hope he will continue so. Walter do wish you both health & wealth & prosperity. We are sending you 3 handkerchiefs. The white one is for yourself, & the other 2 are for John's little girls. Next letter we will try to send Elizabeth Jane's children something. We must now conclude with our best love to all. We kindly thank Josiah for his kind & welcome letters, & are glad to hear from him at any time. We should be glad to receive a letter from William John & Robert when they can make it convenient. We have no more news for the time, so good bye ! & may God bless you all. From your loving sister & brother, Grace & Walter Perkyms. Next letter we shall be looking out for you & your husband taken together. Write soon. Love to all."

Copy of a portion of a letter from Mother to uncle John Rowe:-

"Wallsend, Nov. 6, 1907. Dear Brother & Sister, I remember, John, when we were rearing up, that never brother & sister could agree better on the earth than you & me, especially when Mother was a little rough with me. I always had you & Father for shelter; & especially when she tore the width out of my dress. You told her you would keep your board money to buy me another dress. I have never forgotten, if you have.

And you, my dear little, black-eyed Amelia, you know I always dearly loved you, & you did me; what have I done to you two that you have never written a letter to me? I heard of my brother Robert. He sent a letter out, & I felt as if I could cry with joy to know that they are living. But if it were not for

sister Grace I would never have known if you were living or dead. I have often thought lately that I would like, if it were possible, to be sister to Joseph of Egypt, or something like him. I will assure you, John, that if I had been wealthier I would have seen you all of a nonplus. But in the stagnation that we have been in for years we are from hand to mouth, & hardly that, for the average of the place is whiteflag or else a strike. And now, by all accounts, the miners are going to drop tools next tuesday-- 7000 men. It will let you see whether I wouldn't see you & be brought down to the land of plenty. My dear little, black-eyed Sister Amelia! I would give the world to have your photo again, & of the lot of you. I had a photo of John years ago, but I don't think it is like him. I have had dear brother William's, & Grace's, & Mother's, & Father's, but you have never sent me yours, John. When Grace sent it out & told me you had gone away from where you were, & I heard of the great earthquake & so many people going down, I've often thought you might be in it; but if you had been, it is pleasant to think that you would be with God. I say it now, John, for truth & honor, that there were never 2 better people went into St. Day church than you two were. Robert's wife said you have a girl & she is married. Ask me what I would give to see you all face to face! Although I'm so poor I would sacrifice a great deal. It was to my surprise when Robert sent out to say that he was in one place so long a time. I was agreeably surprised. If you think it well to answer this letter, John, send out your photos, & we are all going to send ours, that is my 3 sons & families & mine. Josiah has 4 children--3 boys & a baby girl. William John has 3 boys & 3 girls; one is called Grace Perkyns Cocking. Robert, my second son, is left a widower with 2 little boys. His wife died on the 6th of February, 1907. So my dear brother & sister, if it be possible & I was not so big, I would like to be put in a whale's belly & land on your shore. But it will not be possible, & we are here on dry land, & it is a dry land indeed, for there have only been a couple of hours rain for several months past.

As regards myself, I have been now over 30 years that I have not walked more than a quarter of a mile. But as regards my old man, if he was not the father of one daughter you would think he was the woman by his action in keeping the house clean, & washing after his day's work is done in the colliery. My daughters-in-law are very good as regards good fellowship, but they are much better for an uninhabited country. They believe in civilizing a land with their generation. They are an honor to the part where they were born. Two of my sons do not smoke; & the second son only started to smoke to cure fits. My son Josiah-- the youngest-- is now a secretary of one of the miners' lodges & belongs to the Debating Society. He is rather touched for the Opposition. Some of the gentlemen asked him what country-man he

is, & he answered that he is a Cosmopolitan. He meant that he loved everybody & he hopes they love him. My daughter Elizabeth Jane is married to a big Scotchman. They have 4 girls. They live at a little town called Swansea, about 20 miles south of Wallsend. His name is James Pettigrew. My son Robert's little boy is christened Robert Rowe Cocking & Jim Pettigrew's eldest girl is christened Elizabeth Rowe Pettigrew. I was very sorry, Amelia, to hear of your ill health. I hope you are better by this time. Tell me who your daughter is married to, & if she has any children. Grace tells me all the neighbors who are living. Ann Stevens is going to send her photo out. I have been a member of the Prim. Methodist church for about 35 years. I went to the foot of the cross & found pardon in the blood of the Saviour. I have not forgotten the goodness of God to me ever since. I am not able to go to church, so the class-leader brings the tickets to me, & the church people come to see me."

Copy of a letter from Tom Walsh, who married Adela Pankhurst.,
"Newcastle Agency, Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia,
(N.S.W. Branch) Newcastle, Dec. 29, 1907.

Arthur Cooper, Secretary; Thomas Walsh, Agent.

Mr. Josiah Cocking, Dear Sir, In yesterday's paper Mr. Davies asks, " Who are they who by preaching & self-sacrifice are trying to grapple with the awful chaos of wrong", etc. I suppose it is as well to give them credit for " trying", but as for " self-sacrificing" by the preacher of to-day, the generation of to-morrow may judge that. Patrick Henry said, "I have but one lamp by which my footsteps are guided, & that is the lamp of experience. Our judgement of the future must be guided by our experience of the past."

Now, our past experience of the self-sacrificing nature of the parson (as a class) would not lead us to expect a great deal from them to-day. I am enclosing a list of names of 50 poor shepherds who, after a self-sacrificing life of toil in the service of the Lord, could only manage to leave £1,000,000 behind them. If you have not got a list of your own I shall consider it an obligation to prepare a few lists for you.

The one I am enclosing is from "Reynold's", 23/3/1906.

You have Davies beaten--aye beaten badly. Yours faithfully
Thomas Walsh.

"Sell all & give to the poor".

The rev. Earl of Abergavenny, £ 300,000.

Rev. G.H. Arkwright, ditto. Rev. J. Arkwright, £ 400,000.

Rev. Henry Back, £ 120,000. Rev. R.W. Barlow, 173,720.

Rev. C. Baring, 120,000. Canon Bridges, 242,000.

Rev. Edwin Brown, 400,000. Rev. C. Burney, 120,000.

A. Bell, 233,000. J.W. Conant, 200,000. Robt. Curley, 107,000.

Henry Du Cane, 120,000. J. Danbury, 107,000. A. Duncombe, 500,000.

G.A. Greatwicke, 180,000. W. Garner, 250,000. G. Gordon, 140,000. A. Gibson, ditto. Earl of Guildford, 200,000. A.C. Graystone, 116,000. John Griffiths, 180,000. G. Harter, 300,000. E. Holland, 334,000. John Hymers, 167,997. Sir E. Kepps Bodwell, Bart., 279,000. R.J. Lancaster, 137,000. Canon Moore, 250,000. H.C. Morgan, 200,000. Earl of Normanton, 400,000. G.B. Paley, 300,000. John Peel, 180,000. H. Van W. Pole, 120,000. J. Staniford, 149,669. Canon G. B. Spark, 160,000. R.P. Simons, 180,000. W. Snyder, 235,000. Francis Swan, 350,000. H. Shrubbs, 300,000. W. Thursby, 254,000. J. Thurlow, 180,000. R. Tritton, 120,000. Sir J. Vincent, 230,000. H.Y. Wright, 120,000. Canon E. W. Vermont, 213,000. J. Williams, 500,000. B. Winthrop, 145,000. W. Winthrop, 149,000. Philpot, bishop of Winchester, 60,000, & extensive freeholds. Total for 50 poor, self-sacrificing workers, £ 10,887,384.
" Lay not up treasures on earth."

Copy of a letter from Tom Johnston to me.

"Saint Helen's Street, Holmesville, West Wallsend, 13/1/1908
Mr. Josiah Cocking. Dear Comrade, In reply to your letter to hand to-day, I may say that when I penned the sentence to which you take exception, the thought went through my mind that you would do just what you have done.

All the same I repeat that sentence, but will try to make myself clear. Christianity, as preached in the churches to-day, is not based upon the teachings of Jesus in any way that I can make out. I am aware that what is preached to-day has had a new name attached to it, namely, "Churchianity". Now, I do not recognise that name at all, I simply recognise the name the members of that religion give it, & that is Christianity: & for that Christianity I have no use or room. Jesus, as a man, I admire, & as a teacher, respect, but his precepts were taught hundreds of years before his time by Buddha, another divine teacher. I accept Jesus as a brother, & son of our common father, God. I believe in the Brotherhood of Man & the Fatherhood of God.

Quite recently I have read that the Christians as such were first split from the original Church of Jesus, & they were first called Christians at Antioch; (Acts, 11-26) A.D. 41 to 43 so you see the split must have been very early.

I hope my explanation is clear to you; if not, then at another time I will try to make myself clearer if you ask the necessary questions.

Regarding Spiritualism I can honestly say I believe in it, & was forced into that belief quite against my wish. The first house we lived in at Tighe's Hill was the cause of my conviction; & the following are the main particulars.

In the first place, we always felt we were intruders in the

house, as it were. The first thing we noticed was continuous knocking upon the walls, which were sawn slabs, therefore solid (i.e. having no space for rats, etc.). The knocking became very bad from 11 p.m. to about 2 a.m., & during that time there was very little sleep. The sounds or knocks were (mostly) as if someone with flat hands was striking the slab walls. Some knocks were sharper, as if done with a stick: & one night I saw a woman pass out of the bedroom through the door, which was open; & the fire being opposite to the door, the firelight showed up the figure splendidly.

On describing the figure & mode of walking ~~xxxxxxx~~ we were informed that it was the wife of the owner, who passed away in the hospital at Newcastle as the result of an operation. One night we heard a terrible crash, & on examination there was nothing moved or disturbed.

After this we determined to move out of the house, but before doing so moved both beds into the one bedroom to please my wife, on account of the children, & kept the lamp burning on the table in the front room, & kept the bedroom door open. During the night I was aroused by my wife making a curious moaning sound, & I had a difficult job to arouse her; & when I succeeded she simply turned over & buried herself under the clothes, & I could get no explanation from her.

Thus lying awake & wondering at the turn things had taken, as wide awake as I am now, I was attracted by something on the bed where the children were, & looked, saw a little girl standing up in the bed.

At first I thought it was our own girl, & lay down again: then ~~thought it strange~~ sat up & the strangeness of the whole thing struck me & I sat up the third time & had a good look at the figure, which faded away as if by distance. Well, the child seemed about 5 or 6 years of age, a laughing, oval face, with wavy hair hanging down covering each ear. She had on a dress such as children about that age wear now--those loose nightgown looking dresses.

I learned afterwards that my wife saw the same child hanging over the foot rail of our bed, & was startled.

My other experiences are similar to that of other Spiritualists. I often see figures quite long enough to know the figures are entities. We all do. I have not had much of a chance to investigate, not having had a chance to get into a good circle. I have tried those clairvoyants about Newcastle, but never got much satisfaction; the predominant feature seemed to be wanting to know the winning horse, or when to invest in Tattersall's sweeps; so I gave up in disgust.

I am "Oakum's Razor". I started writing at your behest, think it would cause me to read up & study; but I feel my first attempt was extinguished altogether. My second was sadly condensed. My last, in Saturday's, was fair. Perhaps it may help me

to bring myself out; & if I can do anything to further Socialism I will try to help it along. I think a Spiritualist makes the best Socialist because he already believes in the Fatherhood of God & the Brotherhood of Man.
I am yours faithfully, Thomas Johnston."

Copy of letter from Aunt Grace to Mother;-
" Jenkins Terrace, Redruth, Jan. 14, 1908.

Dear Sister & Brother, We now take the pleasure of answering your kind & welcome letter, & we are glad to see that you are very well. We are sorry to hear that your husband was hurt, but hope he is better by this time. We are also sorry to hear that William John & your son-in-law were hurt, but we hope they are both better by this time. I am glad to see you have good sons, & hope they will continue so. I hope your daughters-in-law are kind to you. You said you would like to have some of Mother's things. It is 14 years now since Mother died, & the few things she left I gave to the neighbour. You said about Walter's shop. He has no shop: but when I hear of anyone going out I will send you a pair of boots.

You said you used to know Lizzie Dunstone --"Shurdy Shurds" they used to call her: she was put in the workhouse; & now she is dead. She was 85. I had a letter from Robert, & he told me he had a letter from you. He went to see John & Amelia. I wrote a letter to him but have not had an answer; nor I have not had a letter from Chili since I last wrote to you. How is your son Robert getting on? And his children? I would very much like to have his photo: ask him to send it. I would also like to have a letter from Josiah, & his photo that he promised so long ago.

Well, dear sister, Christmas is over once more. We spent a very quiet one; we had very bad weather, now we have rain & hard frost. We do not have any singing like we used to have. We hope that you have not had any strike on. We wish you all a happy & prosperous new year, & many more! We must now come to a close with love from your loving sister & brother. Give our love to all. Write soon. Grace & Walter Perkyns. xxxxx.

Copy of a letter from Thomas Walsh, agent of the Seamen's Union, to me.

"Little Young St. Carrington, Jan. 15, 1908. Josiah Cocking, Esq. Wallsend. Dear friend, Your very welcome letter of the 11th to hand on Sunday last. You will, I feel sure, excuse me for not answering you sooner.

You say that you were blocked by the editor. Now don't you think it was the parson who was prevented by the 'Miners' Owners Advocate' from making an ass of himself? The parson was hopelessly beaten shortly after the controversy opened.

Yes, it would have been better to have written of the preamble first, & afterwards dealt with the critics. Anyway, the parson bit off more than he could chew. I don't think that he will come again: he has had enough. The opportunity to explain the I.W.W. will come; don't fear for that. The want of such an organisation has been evident those 20 years, & it is to-day demonstrating itself more than ever before. The wharf labourers is a case in point. Here we have one section of the transport workers at war with the employers, & the other sections assisting the employers to defeat their fellows. The members of my union have refused to come on the wharf to handle cargo, & if the shipowners proceeded against those of our chaps who have refused, & if we had the misfortune to be tried before Mr. Scott S.M. we would get 6 months in jail for "combining to disobey the lawful commands of the master", that's how the "Seamen's Act" provides for us chaps. The owners said nothing to us so far. I think they are not anxious for a fight with us. And again that spirit of oneness is about: there is undoubtedly a greater regard for our brother's welfare than has hitherto been manifested by the workers. I am almost sure the Newcastle wharf labourers can now see the imperative necessity of a better method of fighting Mr. Haveall. They can now realize what industrial unionism means. If the present dispute prompts them to embrace the I.W.W. the dispute will have justified itself. The seamen, though good fellows, are scarcely prepared for the change. You see, we have always had officers who were generally fond of compromise; & the half-loaf doctrine is preached amongst us yet. Of course we are progressing, but slowly. Yet I am in hopes of an awakening, but I think it will require a weekly paper of their own in which the message can be conveyed to them. I am trying to get the men interested in the project to establish an organ of their own. The coaltrimmers are a bit conservative, & there might be a little difficulty in getting them interested in the Industrial Workers of the World. In the Coal Trimmers' Union it is the custom to close the books & help the boss by forcing men into the arms of the employer. It does not matter how long you have been in your last union, nor what you may have done & suffered for your fellows, you cannot enter the Coal Trimmers' Union until the members feel fit to allow you. That is their idea of unionism. If Jack is allowed in Tom might not get so much work. Cruel? Yes, & it can only be maintained by a cruel, callous set of persons entirely ignorant of the true position. I often feel dejected--actually weary of it all, listening to what they have to say; & when you try to show them the road out some poor slave into whose soul the superstition of constitutionality has been bred, raises the question of practicability; or some hypercritic suggests, "What are you after? But let some black-coated chap happen along & offer them a cheque on the bank of futurity, & in 5 seconds he has them by the wool! Yours faithfull, Thomas Walsh."

Copy of a letter from Nat Thoday to me.

"Kadina, Mar. 28, 1908. Dear Friend, I now take the pleasure of writing these few lines to you hoping to find you well, as it leaves me at present. I have been going to write to you for a long time now, but I have been too tired. But I have had a bit of a spell, so I thought I would write a few lines to you. I would like to know how you are getting on. I am still at the old game, wood-cutting. This is 12 years now, & I am about sick of it. Sometimes I have a good mind to come over there. What sort of a place is it. Do you think a man could get work if he came over? I want a spell somewhere--it would do me good. Things are not looking too good here. Just now wages are very poor, & we don't know how long it will last at that; so if you can see anything that is any good. Well old boy I hope you will have good luck over where you are. Do you remember Kruger? He was a tough ruler, that is Mr. Ned Broad. Do you remember when he said that to you? There are only a few working in the mines now. I must have a look over there some day. Poor old Jim Bennets & John are paid off, but they have been there long enough. Well Joseph I must talk about good bye, hoping this will find you all well. I remain your affectionate friend, Nat Thoday."

Letter from P. O'Grady to me:-

"Kadina, S.A. April 21st, 1908. Dear Joe & Mrs. Cocking, Your kind & welcome letter of Mar. 15 came along all right. I would have written before now in reply, but I had very little to write about; & I do like to have something to say when I open my mouth. I am in work. (hat a splendid essay could be written around those 4 words)I will try it some day). I am a hod-carrier-- an old time mate of mine (Jack-the good-boy) used to term it "Carrying the curse of God". However, curse or no curse, I find it handy, if somewhat tiresome. The cool weather brought my aerated waters job to a finish, & after a week's spell I started hod-carrying for Frank Harwood, the leading builder here. I am getting 7/- a day. Things at the Mines are still very much bad, in fact worse than that. Men who, a little while ago, were getting 3 or 4 pounds a week must now be content with one pound to 30/- a week. There are a few-- a very few-- getting over 2 pounds. I said " must be content", but as a matter of fact they are anything but content, that is the redeeming feature about the whole business. They crowd around the tender board in scores-- sometimes hundreds-- & look upon each other as natural enemies. When the contracts come out they find that not only have they beaten their mates but themselves & their wives & children. BUT they are beautifully discontented, & seeing that there are no actual cases of starvation amongst them, the whole thing is a splendid object lesson. I must be a lucky beggar ."

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 REV. vii. 14.

Mrs. Giles
 HJ JUNE, 1908. *Mrs. Giles*

Ye are my witnesses saith the Lord.

The best of all is God is with us.

I am never out of work, or hardly ever. I have not been near the mines since I got turned away from the drilling machine. And while I can get anything to do outside I shall continue to stay away. Thanks for "The People's". I am distributing it to them among the more intelligent of the chaps with the object, principally, of familiarising them with the "Industrial Workers of the World". I think the first I.W.W. in S.A. is likely to be formed at Kadina. The worst of it is that there are so few of us who take any interest in it. There are really only 4 of us who could be depended upon to attend the meetings. There are Alf Winter; Peter Golding; Dave Templeton; & another fellow. Do you think any good would result from those 4 meeting as a club once a week, with little prospect of any addition for ages? I presume you are a member of Westy I.W.W. club. If so, please write a special letter, without delay, on the method of conducting the club; something that I can read to the fellow workers-- something for a start. You know. You asked if Nat Thoday & Jack Martin were still at their old jobs. Nat is; but I am sorry to say that Jack Martin was put off about the same time as I was, & has not, so far as I know, been put on since. I have not seen him for months, & cannot say how he is getting on. Last time I saw him his hand was pretty "crook", & his dismissal, in my opinion, was a blessing in disguise. I am not certain, but I think Nat Thoday is married again. He is always going to write to you, & always puts it off for a more convenient season. You will hear from him some day.

The jolly trickster is not, as you fancied, old Bob Jolly, or any of his family. Old Bob is still knocking about, taking it easily. Young Bob is away somewhere but returns occasionally. He do booze. Jim (thin & good-looking) is still thin & not bad looking by any means. He is running a grocery business on the Wallaroo road, opposite the soap factory, & I believe, doing very well, considering.

You ask what I think of the Preamble of the I.W.W.. Well, seeing that it is pure unadulterated Socialism, I, as a Socialist, (not a mere Laborite) feel like shouting it from the housetop. When I gave Alf Winter, M.P. a copy of "The People" I read a portion of the Preamble to him, & he agreed with every sentiment therein. Alf, for years, has advocated the formation of one union for the whole of the State, & "the sooner it embraced the whole of Australia the better pleased" he would be. I think Alf is coming along slowly but surely. Southwood has been going for him in the "Copper Age", & it has done him good. I will send you the papers which attacked him. Before I forget I may as well mention that on Sunday night (Easter Sunday) at 11-30 a little girl, who appeared to be in abject poverty, came to our place. She had not a stitch of clothing on her, & appears to have had neither friends nor

name. Tom & Alice are delighted with her, but are undecided as to who brought her along. She is getting along splendidly, & so is Mother. Tom was 8 years old on March 5th last. We are all in the best of health.

We have removed again, & are now living in Julia Terrace. It is at the North East corner of Kadina. It is a cottage of 4 rooms & back kitchen; also a room for the 2 big boys out in the yard. We are paying 8/- a week for it.

I see that you have had plenty of strikes, lock-outs, arbitration courts, etc., lately over your way. I am of the opinion that the latest Act for the perpetuation of slavery will have the effect of sickening the toilers of arbitration & wages Boards. I wish we had a Wade in South Oss instead of a Price. Have you read any of the drivel Price has been mothing in England? He has about finished my education. How the enlightened workers of the old world must be laughing at Australia because of his misrepresentation of even pure & simple Laborism. Don't be surprised if Tom Price comes back as Sir Thomas Price, K.C.M.G. I would jump for joy if my prediction were verified.

I saw some time ago by the Melbourne "Socialist" that a Socialist Party had been formed at Adelaide, but it did not give the name of the secretary; so I wrote to the Melbourne secretary, & after a few weeks delay I got his address. I wrote to him about a fortnight ago, but have not had a reply as yet. I wish they would they would get something going shortly. The Labor candidate, Hon. J.V. O'Loghlin, got a terrible bump at the Senate by-election. I voted for him-- God forgive me!-- but will never again vote for any candidate, Liberal, Labor or Socialist, who advocates conscription or even the mildest form of militarism.

Yes, gordelpus, I voted for Major the Honourable James Vincent O'Lochlin, the Labor candidate. And there were over 40,000 other fools whose "loyalty" to Labor got the better of their judgements. Well, we are a great people, & as one of them I am yours penitently, Pat O'Grady."

"Maitland, ~~Rix~~ South Aus. Nov. 15, 1908. Mr. & Mrs. Cocking, N.S. W. Dear Friends, Your cheery letter of Oct. 31 was forwarded to me from home. Home, my friends, is situated at Ewing street, Kadina, where wife & kiddies, to the number of 6, reside. The old home of my childhood was at Macclesfield, South of Adelaide, where Mother died in 1884, & Father in 1886. This in answer to your surprise at my hearing from home. Well, Joe, I believe I did have a slight attack of the blues when I last wrote to you. I can tell you I was in a very bad way with rheumatism; & am expecting that next Winter will about put me out of the running. But it was cruel of me to inflict you with a recital of my woes, as if you were to blame.

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PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COMPANY & NOT TO INDIVIDUALS.

4th November, 1909.

Mr J. Cocking,
Australia.

Dear Sir,

It has been some time since I have been favoured with a communication from you. I trust it is not because you think I have lost interest in your case. I want to assure you that I am interested in you, that I want to know your rupture is cured. If you have not yet succeeded in effecting a cure I trust you will write me just what your condition is at the present time, that I may give you the best advice as to the best course to pursue. I do not ask a penny for my advice, but would esteem it a privilege if I might aid you to a cure.

At the time I received your order I explained to you how necessary it was that the rupture be retained perfectly at all times. Has the Truss done this? If it has not, it will cost you nothing to obtain different pads that will retain it. Read over carefully the "Tell Me Here" Form I have enclosed, answer the questions carefully, and return it to me. While I am interested in you and desire to aid you, you must do your share in keeping me posted as to your condition.

If you notice any improvement in the ruptured part, but find it is not quite cured, give the Lymphol one more thorough trial. It is a marvellous remedy, and when thoroughly used and directions carefully followed, can hardly fail of a cure. Make a resolution to be cured - and keep it. It will pay you in the end. Do not go at it in a half-hearted way, but see to it that you do all you possibly can to hasten the cure. If you have done all you know, write to me for further suggestions. I am sure I can suggest some means to aid you to the permanent cure which you desire.

Do not imagine yourself too busy to write me. No one can be so hard pressed as to neglect his personal welfare. I can give you assistance and encouragement if you will but afford me the opportunity. I shall therefore hope to hear from you by return.

Very truly yours,

W. S. Rice,

2-W.O.

Thanks for your advice re pink pills; but, old friend, my brand of rheumatism is not so easily shifted as all that. I was chump enough to give a genuine sovereign to a quack for 4 bottles of hogwash; benefit nil; & he had the impudence to try to bribe me with 4 more bottles if I would write him a testimonial saying that I received considerable benefit from his stuff. That is how poor chumps like me are taken down. He is, I believe, an Austrian Jew, but claims to be a Welshman. His name is Abelson. So if he ever nappens your way, & you have any aches or pains, have none of him, but threaten him with your complaint. And that reminds me that you are troubled with the itch. I don't know what the itch is, that is your itch; but a woman in Kadina, about a year ago was suffering with eczema in its incipient, & on the advice of a chronic eczema sufferer, started with Barry's tricopherus, rubbed in. That removed the itching, & I forget now what it was that followed for the rash, but the tricopherus stopped the itch in her case, & may do so in yours. I had eczema round the ankles & shins for about 4 years, & the itch was awful at times, & I effected a cure with some Fuller's earth at night time & some carbolic ointment (Main & Sons, chemists, King st. Adelaide) for daytime. The ointment had, besides carbolic, zinc in its composition. I don't know that your trouble is eczema; but if so it is essential that the affected part be kept dry.; & for ensuring this Fuller's earth is invaluable.

Well, I am still carrying the hod at Maitland with every appearance of pretty well constant work. The wage is 1½/- per hour; so I don't think I would better myself by coming over your way, that is financially. South Australia is at present in a very prosper-- for the owning class. As a result we poor wage-slaves manage to get a few more crumbs from the tables of said owning class than when the bad seasons were around, The worst of it is that all but a mere handful of us in S.A. imagine that ~~imagine~~ the working class are ~~shareholders~~ sharers in the general prosperity. Instead of which, although wages have risen from 5/- to 7 & 8/-, rents have risen enormously, & owing to our Labor Party's so-called Socialistic export depots at Port Adelaide & London, meat & all kinds of dairy produce have become almost prohibitive in price. Our chumps of Labor men imagine they are bringing about Socialism by facilitating the exportation of our primest products for the enriching of the few landholders at the expense of the many ~~wage~~ wage-slaves. Their object is to capture the farmers' vote; but the latter are holding out their hands for as much "Socialism" as they can get for themselves while they are becoming more & more conservative each election; & to the Devil with the wage-slaves & their so-called reps.

Nov. 29. Well, friends, I just postponed the composition of this epistle for a fortnight in the hope that something worth chronicling would eventuate, but nixy! I am still carrying the monkey, & this good old Summertime is just the thing for my poor aching bones. I have to some extent got over the fit of blues manifested in my last letter.

I agree with you that it is a valuable asset for an agitator that he should be in a position to speak from experience when denouncing economic evils; but, my dear optimistic friend, I am not an agitator now. In the past I did my little best to agitate some, & for my pains (or was it for my outspokenness?) I got bumped from every position I held or was nominated for in the various organisations. Of course I was not sorry: on the contrary I was glad to receive these bumps. All the same it shows that class-consciousness and creed-consciousness are the real antagonists to-day amongst the workers; & until all creeds are wiped out of the Labor Movement, or one creed wipes all the others out, it seems to me a waste of energy to go on. I know what you would say; but as Socialism becomes stronger it, too, will be contaminated, if it is not already so. I am here in Maitland batching alone in a 2 roomed weatherboard cottage. I read very little. London "Justice" once a week & "Wilshire's Magazine" once a month: that is all the Socialism I get. I have read 2 of Sir W. Scott's & 1 of Lord Lytton's novels, besides the 2 papers, in a little over 4 months. I put the rest of my time in trying to think absolutely for myself. I picture to my mental vision systems & individuals, & I try to solve for myself this problem:- What would I do were I a capitalist, & how would I use the power I possessed to punish or reward the rascals who either wilfully or through culpable ignorance continue to mislead the poor wretches who make it possible for me & my like to wax fat & flabby at their expense? I can tell you I have some wonderful thoughts that are worth all the reading & all the libraries in the universe. On these occasions I leave my mind perfectly open, & all kinds of thoughts are welcome. But it always ends the same way: Socialism is the only remedy, & our so-called Labor reps must go. But it will be a very slow process, Joe, & blood in plenty will be spilled before it is accomplished.

I see by last night's paper that the Maitland Coal Mines Bill has passed the S.A. Assembly, & is sent to the Slaughter House. I thank you for information contained in your last letter. You say that if the Colliery Employees' Federation goes out on strike the S.A. mine men will also come out. Not necessarily, surely. I should say that that depends on what they are striking for. Suppose the C.E.F. is demanding, say, 36 hours per week & say, 3d per ton rise, & that their demands are conceded by the S.A. coal mine management, would the strike still continue to affect that mine as well as those that oppose the demand.

Surely not! I can understand it acting thus if it is an I.W.W. General Strike. But if I understand it aright, the latter would only be entered upon for the purpose of ushering in Socialism; & surely you are not anticipating such an event just yet. Are we ready for Socialism? Very well, if a strike is entered upon for the purpose of forcing a conclusion under the present system, surely the employers who accede to the demand made by the men's organisation would be treated differently to those who resist. Let us be sane if we would be listened to. I will be candid with you & say that if the I.W.W. stands for what is known as the "Social General Strkke" or a bloodless revolution, I am not going to touch it. To my mind we must gain freedom either by political or by powder & shot -- not by standing idle passively watching our dear ones starve, as they must. The working class cannot afford to all come out on strike at once unless it is to be a short, sharp strike with steel & lead-- in short a rebellion. My recent silent arguments or reveries are bringing more & more to my mind the inevitableness of an ultimate bloody struggle for justice; & make more bearable the thought of the coming "Citizen Army", or compulsory military service, for, I argue; "if we are to fight for justice with powder & shot, why not make our preparations & discipline ourselves openly, & formulate our plans when we are ready. The Young Turkey Party recently showed us some possibilities.

Well, friend, it is useless going on like this; I will shock Mrs. Cocking directly! When I think of coming over your way I will let you know, but I don't think it likely or possible. Write soon & address as below. With best wishes to all of you yours affectionately P.O'Grady, Laborer, Maitland, S.A.

P.S. As there is another O'Grady here it is necessary to address my letters as above. P.O'G."

Copy of a portion of a letter written probably in 1909.

"And numbness. I have taken no medicine except Epsom salts which I take in small doses immediately after each meal. That keeps my bowels regular, which will prevent a further accumulation of uric acid; but how to get rid of that already in the system is what has, so far, baffled the best physicians. If I am again troubled with the pains I shall try pink pills, as you suggest. I was indeed in a terrible state last Winter, & how I managed to continue to work is a profound mystery. It was surely a case of "needs must when the Devil drives". Thanks for your kind wishes for a good new year, which we reciprocate. Mrs. O'Grady intended to send cards; but I left for here, & I don't know if she did so. You said something about "the next tree I will have to climb is the political one". Now, Joe, let that notion vanish completely from your mind. I have no desire to enter Parliament, i

if that is what you mean. I agree that parliaments & governments we must have for some thousands of years yet; but what have I done that I should be considered a fit subject for such an institution &? I have never yet been arrested or sommoned for drunkenness or disorderly conduct, nor have I been known to express a desire to gain a fat living at the expense of, & by the credulity of, inoffensive, foolish people called electors. If the people will be fooled let them be fooled by those most fitted to fool them. Alf Winter took the job on & failed: why? Because he is unfitted by nature for the fooling business; & because he refrains from fooling & humbugging the people, those very people are threating with dire calamity "next time". Alf is the silent member of S.A. Assembly, not because he cannot orate (he can be almost eloquent when he chooses) but because the Labor Caucus adopts, by majority, a line of conduct that he cannot advocate. Poor wretch! he has to keep his pledges: has to vote with the Party or resign, Alf is reviled by his colleagues, who are aware of his predicament, & by his electors who are not: & he is too loyal to his Party to make any explanation. I, who know him thoroughly, can only get at the truth bit by bit. Is this the political tree you would wish me to shin? No, you would wish me to be a Socialist member. Well, show me a Socialist constituency, & I will think it over. Make one? Well, Joe, I was doing my little best in that direction but when I began to read the Socialist newspapers of Australia, England, & America, I became disheartened. I wanted to attack, not individuals, not even those composing the capitalist class, & naturally expected to find the Party (Socialist) papers concentrating their effort at effecting the downfall of Capitalism. Instead I found, with but few exceptions, & those not Australian, little else but bitter personalities & mutual recriminations. So, for a time, I give it best. I am willing at any time to fight the System of Capitalism & some of its representatives; but I decline to lift my hand, except in the way of kindness, to a brother Socialist, even though his way of approaching the enemy is not my way.

When I read, in "The People", a long tirade of abuse & lies concerning honest fighters, by that arch-traitor Walter Wilson of Melbourne-- when I note that the conductors of that paper are clasping to their collective heart that slimy tool of Capitalism I feel sick & miserable. Melbourne "Socialist", since Ross became editor, is nearly as bad. So I confine myself to the good old "Clarion" & the New York Wilshire's Magazine". If I do not get quite so much dry economics I at least get humanitarianism & comradeship, which is as necessary. I hope, Joe, that you will not feel that I am scolding you when I write thus. I am aware that you are not "The People", nor its conductor, but if you were I would not hesitate to give my opinion all the same; & I think you would not wish me to hes-

itate if I felt so. I cannot¹⁴⁰ read "The People" for the pip, & that's the truth. I believe you would feel similarly but for your intense loyalty to old comrades.

But enough of this; as the police said at the conclusion of Burns--Squires fight. Tom Mann has, during his brief stay in Australia, done more for ~~Australia~~ Socialism than all the Moroneys, Bathos, & Ross' put together, or ever will; & yet this is the man whom the "People", when he first landed in in Australia, advised to get work & become a useful member of society. Once again, enough of this.

I hope young Charlie & young Florrie have completely rid themselves of that bronchitis, & that you are all well. That photo (promised) has not happened along yet! I was at home a week ago & found them all well. William is at the aerated-water factory during the week & at barbering during the Saturday afternoons & nights. Kitty is in Moore & Cos. shop, & is getting on splendidly. Alice is at home helping Mother; & boy Tom is at school. Nora is now in tip-top condition, although just before Christmas we thought we were going to "lost un". She was suffering from teething & diarrhoea, but a cool change saved her & several other babies.

I know of nothing else, I can enlighten you with, but I must tell you a little incident that happened a week ago here, showing that dreary Maitland has its compensations. At dinner time we were discussing Broken Hill lockout, Tom Mann, & Socialists generally. Charley Gardiner, my fellow hodcarrier, volunteered the statement that Cobden was the greatest Socialist England ever produced. Of course I had to lauth. Charley asked if I were ever in England, & on my answering "No" he said, "Then shut up! I was, & ought to know." I asked if Cobden was not one of the founders of the "Manchester School", to which Charley replied, "He was too big a man to be a teacher, that's why he was a Socialist; adding, "As Bright was before him". I timidly ventured the opinion that Cobden & Bright were contemporaries. "Contemporaries be d--d" says Charlie, "I tell you they were Socialists!" There were 6 of us there, but I assure you the joke was enjoyed only by myself; the others did not see it. Things at the Mines continue very slack. Copper is again down below £ 56 per ton. It did get down to £ 54-5-0 about a week ago. Tom Mann was in Kadina for 2 nights about a fortnight ago, & had the hall packed & a crowd outside listening the first night, & the hall full second night. Over 200 unionists met him at the railway station & marched through the streets. As a result of his visit over 50 new members joined the union the following week & were still coming in when I left a week ago. If he is acquitted, or when he becomes free again, if convicted, it is the intention of the union to endeavour to secure his services as an organiser. Wallaroo is with us, but Moonta will probably hang back as usual. As this is the second long

141.

letter I have written to-day I am feeling a bit tired. I am not feeling as young as I used to. So, my friends, Good night; & don't follow my example of delaying an answer 3 months.

Frank joins in the hope that you are all quite well & happy. Yours sincerely P.O'Grady.

P.S. Frank is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch taller than his old father !!. P.O'G." (Probably written in Jan. 1909).

Sent to uncle John Rowe, for Mother, Aug. 11, 1909:- Jose's photo with camera, sent by me to my cousin Elizabeth Baettner, San Jose, U.S.A. Aug. 23, 1909. Also a postcard of a Newcastle street sent by me to aunt Amelia Rowe, San Jose, U.S.A.

A letter & x photos were received by Mother from uncle Robert Rowe, Crockett, Cal. U.S.A. on Oct. 28th 1909. A letter was sent from Mother to uncle R. Rowe, in Oct. 1909. A letter was sent by me to R. Rowe with a photo of Jose with camera, our group, a view from Sugarloaf mountain, Bobby's memory card, view of an Australian sheep station, & one of wool barges on the Murray river, 1909.

Copy of a note from James Barr, manager of the Co-operative Colliery, Wallsend, :- "Wed. 5th Dec. 1909. This is to certify that that Charles Elijah Giles is employed at this colliery as a miner, & that his earnings from 28 Nov. 1908 to 27 Nov 1909 are about £ 31-7-7. This amount does not represent his nett earnings; the cost of explosives & tools which he purchased himself must be deducted to arrive at his nett earnings. James Barr, manager, Co-operative Colliery."

"Council Chambers, Wallsend, 6th Dec. ~~1909~~ 1909. I certify that during the year ended 25th last Mr. Giles received the sum of £ 4-15-6 in payment for road material supplied to Wallsend Municipal Council. I am etc. Adam Cook, Council Clerk."

" 274 Pitt St., Sydney, Nov. 21, 1909. Dear Joe, When I received your long & delightful letter in Albury jail I could not reply, because at that time I was only entitled to write 2 letters every 2 months--one of which had to go to my wife & the other to my mother. Immediately after my release I was invited to visit Melbourne, Adelaide, & Broken Hill-- & accepting the invitation I had only a few days at home. This is therefore really the first opportunity I have had of writing since my release-- & I am settling down for a heavy week of correspondence to answer all my letters. I shall not attempt to reply in detail to yours but will content myself with thanking you heartily for your thoughtfulness. Those who have never been in a prison cannot imagine how the hell of isolation & confinement makes over welcome every line that comes from the outside world, & how such messages cheer & strengthen one. But just now I want to ask you

for your candid opinion re the present strike & its conduct. I would like you to reply by return post if possible. What about the delay in calling out the waterside & other workers,? Are they working the thing to a fizzle? (the politicians I mean). I wish you would send me a line about twice a week summarising the developing incidents with your own comments for my guidance in speaking and writing. If you should desire it I will treat all your communications as strictly private. I feel that you will be able to look at the whole matter in a much clearer perspective than most of us here; & I am anxious that in whatever we do or say as Socialists we shall not in any way jeopardise the success of the unions. (I am enclosing stamps for replies). I know that you wont have money to spare for postage while this trouble is on; & anyhow this is a matter which concerns our party, & it's fair that the party should pay incidental expenses.

I sincerely hope that Mrs. Cocking & the children are well, & that when this fight is ended no one will be made to feel the lash of victimisation. I am only just beginning to feel my feet again now. With all good wishes, Yours for revolt, Henry Edmund Holland."

"Saint Helen's Street, Holmesville, West Wallsend, Dec. 29, 1909.
Mr. & Mrs. Cocking. Dear Friends & comrades, In reply to yours of Dec. 13th, & in which I am very longwinded, & apologise for being so long over it, but the fact of the matter is I am terrible unsettled, & a strong desire to wander about. I will have to do something, as I get very bad tempered. I was interested in your letter experiments, which are mostly failures; but keep on trying. In the future, when things are settled, I may. I nearly had a stroll in to Wallsend last week, only the weather was too hot for walking; & furthermore I had strong impressions not to. Of course I cannot tell why, or where they come from, but I find it best to always act on impressions, especially first ones. When I act on first impressions I rarely go wrong. There is a letter in to-day's "Advocate" likely to start another discussion, but I wont take part in it until I get my orders, in other words, get my impression. The other night, lying tossing about in bed, I wrote, in my mind, a long letter in defence of Francisco Ferrer who was murdered by the Christian church in Spain a short time ago. He was a noble specimen of humanity, & spent his wealth upon entirely secular education in Spain; for which, of course, the priests wanted to get rid of him, & succeeded on a false charge of treason & rebellion. He practically had no trial; & the semblance was military court-martial, with the charges read over; some witnesses' statements, & no cross examination allowed. Shot: & then the priests rejoiced!
Senor Ferrer is the last of a long list of martyrs. I have a

couple of papers containing some accounts which I will bring you in some time for you to read. Mr. Joseph McCabe, an ex Catholic priest, has written a short account of his life; & it is issued by the Rationalist Press Association. When my copy comes to hand you shall have a read at it. We all join in wishing you a ll a real happy new year. I am posting you a "Labour Leader" & a "People". I remain yours sincerely Tom Johnston. P.S. On your experiment in thought transference, Dec. 13, 1909. "How old are you, Tom?" Answer obtained by you: - "Born 25th of Nov. 1864." The true answer is, 29th of May, 1859. "How many brothers & sisters have you, Tom?" Your answer: - Two brother & 1 sister. That answer is correct. "What are your brothers' names?" Your answer: - William Henry & John. First is wrong: John is right. "Which is the eldest brother?" Your answer: "John". No, John is the youngest. "What is your sister's full name?" Your ans: - "She is dead: her name was Elizabeth". No, it was Mary; & she was dead before I was born. "Where did she die?" Your ans: - "At Spennymoor". Wrong. "When did she die?" Your ans: - "In the year 1901 or 2." Neither right. "Was she married?" Your ans: - "Yes, she left 3 children, 2 boys & a girl." Wrong: she was not married, but died in infancy. "What was her husband's name?" Your ans: - "John Henry Stirling." Wrong. "Is your father alive?" Your ans: - "Yes". So far as I know this is correct. "Is your mother still living?" Your ans: - "Yes, but she is an invalid." Wrong: mother is dead. "What is the name of the vessel you came out in?" Your ans: - "P&O liner Potosi." Potosi is wrong: I came out in a sailing ship. "What was the captain's name?" Your ans: - "Your ans: - "George Brussel." Wrong. "Did your wife come out with you?" Your ans: - "Yes." Wrong. "Where was your son Bob born?" Your ans: - "Your ans: - "2nd Aug. 1889." Wrong. "When was Lizzie born?" Your ans: - "23rd Nov, 1887." Wrong. "How many days were you on the voyage from England?" Your ans: - "Six weeks." Wrong. "Was the voyage stormy?" ~~Your ans: -~~ "Your answer: - "Yes, that is why it was so ~~the~~ long." We had both stormy & fine weather. "Did anyone die on the voyage?" Your ans: - "Yes, a boy." Wrong; a man did. "What ailed him?" Your ans: - "A fever, I think." Wrong. "How old was he?" Your ans: - "11 years." Wrong. "What was his name?" Your ans: - "W, Williams." Wrong. "Have you ever tried to communicate telepathically with me?" Your ans: - "No." Right; conditions are against it."

Note: - I sent a letter re telepathy to Daniel De Leon, U.S.A. on Dec. 15th, 1909, & my letter of Dec. 4th 1909 in the Newcastle Morning Herald.

"Jenkins Terrace, Redruth, Cornwall, Jan. 4, 1910.
Dear Sister & Brother, I now take the pleasure of answering

your kind & welcome letter. Glad to see you are all in the best of health. I am glad to hear you say you are better & no worse. Hope you will be spared for many years to come. You asked about Ann Stevens : she is still alive & is living in Wiljewel Row, Saint Day. She lives alone. She is an old maid; she will never marry, she is too old now. There is nobody in St. Day now that you do know. There are some dead & some gone to distant lands. Walter's sister is come down from Yorkshire & gone to Saint Day to live; & Christmas Day Walter & I went up there to spend the day. It is nothing like it used to be on Saturdays, but now there is only 1 butcher in the market house. I have not been up St. Day before for years. I think your sons are doing very well. I expect they will have to live in larger houses, for their wives are having so many children. You asked about the records. We do not understand anything about it. We should be very glad to have the photos when they are ready. I see you don't have many revivals there. Well, they are very scarce home here. We had one about a month ago at the Wesleyans. We should get more if there was not so much pride. Electioneering is coming on now very soon, & everybody seem to be busy about it. We are having very dull, heavy weather-- rain almost every day. You say the times are very dull there. They are the same home here. We hope it will be brighter soon. I had a letter from brother Robert & he told me he has sent you his family group. I suppose you were very proud to get it. Robert has another daughter married. He has only 3 at home now, & he feels very much to see them going. I hope you had a very happy, comfortable Christmas. We had a very quiet one. I have not had a letter from brother Billy's family yet. It is 3 years since I heard from them. Nor John has not written yet. One of Robert's sons lives near John & told him about writing, but he has not written yet. I hope your husband is working by this time; & we are glad to hear that he is well. I suppose you had your children all with you at Christmas. It is not like it was when you were at home. Walter's sister--Mary-- married a son of Peter May: he is called Tom. She wishes to be remembered to you, & would like to hear from you. I will send you the "Cornubian". I am sending you a few postcards. I wish you all a happy & prosperous new year ! Tell Josiah I should be glad to have a letter from him any time. Walter & myself are very well at time of writing. I should be glad to have a letter from William John or Robert-- I see he still has his housekeeper with him. I must now come to a close. While I am writing Walter is blowing up the fire with John Harper's bellows that he used to get the broth for dinners on Sundays, you know ! From your ever-loving sister & brother, Grace & Walter Perkyns. Write soon xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx."

145.

"The Socialist Federation of Australasia (affiliated with t
the International Socialist Bureau, ~~Bur~~ Brussels). Headquarte
rs: 274 Pitt St. Sydney, N.S. W. , Australia. H.E. Holland,
General Secretary. Aug. Borax , General Treasurer. Jan. 15, 1
1910. Dear Joe, You must forgive me for my delay in replying
to your 4 notes (these are busy times). We printed off 1000
slips of "The Old Game Ain't What It Hughesed to Be", & scat-
tered them about the wharves & down South. The Hughes party
squealed about it-- it hit them in a place that hurt. The
wife has been singing the Patterson song ever since it appear
ed. The Kitchener budget~~f~~ will appear next week. I am trying
to get a "Queensland Worker" cartoon reproduced. We shall be
more than pleased to ge your group photo. We have been contem
plating getting a family group taken for some time, but var-
ious things have prevented us-- sometimes one of the boys has
been away, & at other times cash shortages (an almost chronic
complaint with us) have stood in the way. We'll send you one
as soon as we can manage it.

I shall be glad to get the "social contrasts" photos you ment
ion (I haven't placed the matter before the Executive, but
will guarantee that you will be paid whatever outlay is neces
sary). At the present time I am doing nothing (except editin
g the "Reviews"-- which is unpaid work). But our people are
moving in the direction of acquiring a plant & starting a lar
ger paper, as well as issuing a regular series of pamphlets.
Therefore I expect to be hard at work in a month's time.
Your matter is splendid-- & our crowd here are just delighted
with it. Later I propose to suggest that we print a selection
of your stuff in pamphlet form-- the general matter I mean.
But I'll write you about that later. At the present time you
are sending along an average of 2 articles a week-- & "Review
space makes it nearly impossible to get it all in. I would
suggest one article weekly-- apart, of course, from any verse
you may send along. Hughes has succeeded in sowing the seed
of dissension in the South; but the chap who is looked upon a
as the wheelers' representative told me the Southern miners w
would never return to work while the North is out. Whether th
at is so remains to be seen. The Southern district officers
are such awful traitors that one wonders they haven't been
found out long ago. On Wednesday last J.R. Wilson, one of
our speakers, was sent to jail for a month for street-speak
ing; & we may have a big free-speech fight ahead of us for
all we know. A move is on here to make an attempt to raise
funds for the strikers. Yours in revolt, H.E.Holland.
Kind remembrance to Mrs. C. & family."

"Finniss Street, North Adelaide, Jan. 23, 1910.

Dear Joe, After a silence of over a year I am again taking the very great liberty of addressing you. A wonderful display of temerity, is it not? Be that as it may, nowever, I am goaded, perhaps I should say encouraged in this resolve by the receipt, a few days ago, of a copy of the "International Socialist Review", the superscription on which, by the way, was cold & commercial-looking type!! Yes, my plebian name plutocratically type-written!! So great was my mental perterbation from this outrage that in a few moments the surrounding atmosphere was blue & an explosion imminent when, tearing off the wrapper, my gaze fell on something strangely familiar. A dozen verses of wonderfully soothing, & in my then mental condition, opportune balm. I read through once &, as I hinted above, I wondered where I had come across some of the phrases before. Then I looked at the pen name closely & then twigged the familiar "J.C". No type-writing about those 2 letters; they were human, breathing!

Well, Joe, how are you & Mrs. Cooking & the kiddies? Any more since? As you will have seen by the address on this, I & we have removed from Kadina to Adelaide. It is about 9 months since I ~~we~~ came here; the family followed 2 months later. I am still carrying the hod; & hard toil I find it. The Wallaroo mines have been closed down several weeks" owing to the coal strike", you know. I never want to see those nor any other mines again. Will is barbering in Rundle street, Adelaide, & is getting 25/- a week as an improver, & improving fast. Kitty is in Charles Moore's drapery shop as an assistant, & is being shamefully underpaid (6/-) like all her shopmates. Frank has been in a monumental mason's yard until yesterday, when he left. He is starting with Metters & Co., oven makers & windmill general engineers. He is to learn the engineering (fitter & turner). There is plenty of work in Adelaide for those who are used to hod-carrying, & the profession of bricklayers; labourers at 8/- & 9/- a day of 8 hours. Rent is high; we are paying 12/- a week for 5 rooms. That is considered very low because the house is old & inconvenient, but it is considered good enough for a mere working man. We here are watching the coal strike, but are doing little else but watching. The Labor politicians are the industrial leaders for the most part, & are fearful lest the strike will last over the general elections. If they could do so safely to themselves they would send the colliers back on any terms, so as to have "peace" for a month or 2 before the elections. But some of us are wide awake & are watching them, & they know it. My union--the United Laborers' Union-- is considered the most militant union in South Australia. If that is so, God help S.A. workers! However, we are wide enough awake to sit on all huckstering politicians who try any tricks. Senator MCGregor is a member of our union, &

(election looming) has been attending the meetings pretty frequently, but he has learned to be discreet in what he says & advocates.

Well, Joe, that was a splendid effort of yours on "The Old Game Ain't What It Hughesed To Be". Do it again, lad. Do it as often as convenient. Of course it will not fill hungry bellies, & I don't suppose your stomach is overloaded, nor those of your little family; but it might give you a grim kind of satisfaction to know that you are administering a few well-deserved & well-directed kicks.

I met Harry Holland when he was in Adelaide recently & found him to be a great fellow. I hope he will get into Hughes' seat, as then he will have money & leisure to do things; because, as he says, he would be suspended for the session almost, if not the very first day he sat in Parliament. I was asking him if he had seen you lately; & he promised that when he saw you he would remind you of me. I will not write more now, but hope it will not be many days before I hear from you. We have a very small group of Socialists in Adelaide, & of course I am one of them. Love to all. Yours fraternally P.O'Grady."

"274 Pitt Street, Tues. Feb. 23, 1910. Dear Joe, Thanks for copy-- also photos. Don't bother about Maitland jail now. Peter Bowling & some of the others have been sent to Goulburn in irons ! I'll get a picture of Darlinghurst or Goulburn. No, we shall print that pamphlet as I suggested. You ought to go over all your stuff & write it in what you conceive to be the order of merit, making any changes you desire, & when I am selecting the portions to be republished I will respect your wishes as much as possible. That is a good idea re using blocks in pamphlet (send me Watkins' house by all means). Just now I am fighting the Police Court battle over that procession-- which I didn't take part in , because our Executive didn't think it was worth my risking my liberty with so much work to do. Yesterday I was in court for 3 hours, & there was thunder & lightning in the air all the time. I lashed Want every time I got a chance, & the papers haven't reported a line of it so far. If you get a letter from the Election Committee don't worry about it unless you are able to do anything in the way of lifting some cash to help us from anti-Hughes-ites up your way. We are going to have a job to raise all the money we want for literature, advertisements, deposit, etc. Fifty seven, mostly ours, were fined yesterday. Most of our people are workless, & the police are on our track all the time. And the "People" crowd are, unfortunately, helping them. Yesterday Want had a copy of the "People" in court containing allegations that we were responsible for the procession (& that responsibility carries a year's jail in its track). All that Want got a chance to do, however, was to ask insulting questions

based on the "People"s article. It becomes more & more damnable when you find you've got to fight not only the open enemy, but the cloaked enemy--the informer who masquerades as a Socialist! I have an election meeting to-morrow, & have to appear again at the court to-morrow. So my hands are full. If free I will write you again shortly. If things go wrong to-morrow I wish you would send along one article every week without fail while I am away-- taking care to keep compromising matter out of sight. Yours faithfully H.E. Holland ."

SEE PAGE 150.

Copy of a letter from uncle Robert Rowe to Mother:-
 "Crockett, Cal. U.S.A. Feb. 17, 1910. Dear Brother & Sister, We received your letter in due time & were glad to hear that yourself & husband were fairly well, & that you received the photos safe. I am sure it must have been a great pleasure to you to look at your brother's photo after so many years not seeing him & his family. I am sorry we did not have them all at that time, but hope to send them in the future. Since we wrote to you last our daughter Mabelle is married, but she is living only a short way from home; we can see her often, but still we feel bad to have them leave home one after another. We have only 3 left at home now--Ethel & Melvin & Prentiss. Ethel is the youngest daughter-- the one that wears glasses-- & she says that she will stay at home with Papa & Mama; but I am afraid she will leave some time, as the others have done. But such is life ! As long as they get good husbands, & the boys good wives, they will have happy homes, & all will be well. Papa has had rheumatism some this winter, & it has made him feel bad some days, but I hope as the Summer comes he will feel better. Tell your son Josiah that we received his family photos, & I think them a nice family; & I thank them for them. We also received the papers & views that he sent us. A few weeks ago we sent him 2 of our California Calenders: Booth Bros. is the groceries store that we trade at; & the other is from the cartridge factory connected with Selby's, where Papa works; & Papa will write to your son sometime: but, as I wrote you before, he is very slow to write-- in fact he will not write if he can get out of it.

And in regard to your son coming to California, Papa would not advise him to come, as it is hard for laboring men, & wages are not high, & rents & living are very high. But of course California is a beautiful country-- at least we think so, but it is a busy one. Everybody is always working hard to improve it, & in many cases are well paid for their labor.

Melvin has just returned from a two weeks visit with his brothers at San Jose, & visited his uncle John Rowe, & found them fairly well for years. It was our sons Charles & Gordon that Lizzie referred to as her 2 cousins. They both live in San Jose. We received a letter from Grace yesterday. They are well. We are always glad to hear from them. Dear sister, we

& send you some views of Crockett, & Valona, & San Francisco, & San Jose. We live at Valona, but you cannot see our house as the trees hide it; also views of Selby's smelting & lead works. I hope, dear sister, that this finds your husband & family & yourself well. Remember us to all your children, & write whenever you can, as we are always glad to hear from you. With love from all we are, as ever, your loving brother & sister, Robert & Mary Rowe, Crockett, Contra Costa Co. , California, U.S.A.."

Saint Helen's Street, Holmesville, May 1st, 19010. Mrs. & Mr. Josiah Cocking, Dear Comrades, We are sorry you appear to be in the midst of trouble. I had thought your shins were much better & on the way towards healing. Have you had some other severe illness that laid you off work? However, I hope you are completely recovered. I think you are wrong in your opinion of Jim Moroney & the Socialist Labor Party. From what I can find out the S.L.P. is practically the oldest Socialist Party in Australia; & it has designed its rules, etc. with a view to hindering fakirs etc. from becoming members. Consequently some who want to make money out of a movement cannot do so in the S.L.P. The "People" is run straight & honest, & is entirely kept going by subscriptions from readers, & from monetary contributions from members & sympathetic friends; & although not exactly the paper we would like, it is under the control of the Party, & is a most wonderful paper, considering that the letter press has been left to a very few to write up, & who have to work for their daily Bread. The paper has an improved outlook now, seeing that the executive has asked for assistance to write up material for its columns; & are getting it. Remember there are no profits from the sale of strong drink that go to the upkeep of the "People". If you take the "International Socialist Review", if you ~~except~~ except "Dandelions" articles, there is nothing in it. I remember some years ago Harry Holland ran a little paper called "The Collectivist", which, I am informed, was the forerunner of "The People". It was not very clean at that time, & made vicious attacks on all & sundry, much in the same manner as the I.S. Review is doing now. Since I have been reading the "People" it has not made an attack upon anyone, but has refuted many made by other papers.

However, these internecine fights are what the Socialist Labor Party has got to finish & come out on top clean; & to do so must keep its ranks free from fakirs-- in fact make it impossible for such to find lodgement within its ranks. When such finds an entrance, & the S.L.P. becomes in any way doubtful, yours truly will soon get out of it. I have knocked off all study in connection with mining, etc., & would like to devote my time to study social problems, in which I have not sufficient knowledge and education to be able to write for a paper of such excellence as "The People".

I only wish I was able to contribute to it. Besides, as a rule, I am feeling too tired after a day's work to sit down & write or study. But I hope to recover shortly. I have been only a short time in the Movement, not yet one year since I became a member. I was seeking conviction before that, & when a man reaches that stage he needs something else than pamphlets & papers; he wants to get to the roots of things. For anyone to become a successful writer or talker he needs knowledge on the top of conviction, & you know it takes time to acquire knowledge. I have a few books on the subject now, & would like a bit of time to make a study of them--Marx's "Capital"; Thorold Rogers; Six Centuries Of Work & Wages", besides several smaller ones which will take time to get into. To think the years that I have frittered away to no purpose, & have only started to learn in old age, as it were, & when there is such a struggle for existence. Let us hope the Labor Party will make it easier for us old ones in the future; but I am afraid not!

The debate comes off in the School of Arts next back Saturday night, May 14th. Hawkins is to stay at our house while up here. I would like to see you out for it. I would offer to put you up overnight, but having Hawkins here takes up our available room. Think it over & come out if possible.

Trusting that Mrs. Cocking & family are well, & that you are also much better, I remain yours sincerely Tom Johnston."

Commonwealth of Australia. Department of Treasury. Old Age Pensions Office, Melbourne, 8th Mar. 1910. Memorandum for Mr. Josiah Cocking, Pittown, Wallsend, N.S.W.

With reference to your letter of the 16th ultimo in regard to the pension claim of Charles Elijah Giles, I have the honor to inform you that I am advised by the Deputy Commissioner at Sydney that a pension of 20/- per fortnight has been granted as from 2/12/1909, & that notice of same was sent to Mr. Giles on the 23rd ultimo. No doubt he has received his first instalment before now. Jas. R. Collins, Assistant Commissioner of Pensions."

Continuation of the letter from H. Holland on page 148.

"By the way, could you give us the names of any real anti-Hughes men (who understand the Socialist position in some way) who might be willing to aid in raising funds to fight Hughes? H.E.H.

Monday Feb. 29th 1910. Dear Joe, Yours to hand--with copy--today. I received those prints, Thanks. Have got blocks made from all of them-- also a block of Hughes' house. We are going to make postcards. One of them will bear Hughes' house-- a beautiful structure (What the Labor Party bought for W.M. Hughes by compulsory arbitration). If you can get me a picture of Maitland Jail I want it at once. I propose to put Hughes' Hughes' (with inscription as above) on a post card, &

151.

below it Maitland jail(What the Labor Party has got for Peter Bowling, Burns, etc.etc. with compulsory arbitration).

I will have those "Reviews" sent as desired & will get Johns put on the list. He can notify us if he doesn't want to continue. We have a Pat O'Grady in the Adelaide party. I believe he is one of Adelaide's reps on our General Executive. Perhaps he is your Pat too. Last week's copies I will also send as desired. When the strike is over I shall try and work an organising trip in the North & South ! But wait ! On tuesday next week I have to answer a charge of taking part in a procession that wasn't a funeral procession. My eldest boy, Fred, is also summoned. I didn't happen to be in that procession-- because the Executive was anxious that I should not involve myself at present. But a little thing like that doesn't worry Wade & Co. just now. So long as I can get on the nomination paper I'll make things hum for Hughes. There are lots of things I wanted to write to you about, but they will have to keep. I haven't had time to go through your verse, but this week am using "The Soliloquy Of Jim McGowen".(Funeral Director). I hope to see you soon & have a long chat about things in general. The "Review" is going ahead splendidly & we are well on the way with the enlarged paper idea-- which will materialise in a few weeks. Of course we've all got to keep out of jail. That's why I cut down your article last week. It was slashing matter, but it would have sent us all "along"-- & is it worth going "along for the rotten, spineless crowd that's running the show today ? Yours in haste, H.E.Holland."

274 Pitt St. Sydney, May 19, 1910. Dear Joe, I can't tell you how deeply sorry we all were when your letter arrived yesterday with the news of your Mother's death. Although I know she never took kindly to the idea of Socialism she was always such a good friend to me in those black & bitter days when I was struggling in Newcastle. I have been puzzling my brain to try to remember your stepfather's name, but it has gone clean out of my mind. It is good to know that she went to a painless sleep; & I know, as you say, that when the shadow of Death falls across a home cold Materialism is comfortless; but does the acceptance of the materialist theory of history necessarily involve a disbelief in an after life ? I think not. At the most we can only say "I don't know". And it is not for us to quarrel with those who say "We do not know there is another life." What you have written of your mother (& I know how true it is) recalls the tremendous sacrifices the women of the working class are called upon to make in this, or any other, age. Did you read Debs' article on "Comrade & Equal" ? I often think there is nothing so good & so beautiful in all human history as the love of a good woman, whether it be mother, wife, sister, or daughter. Some day we'll learn that lesson more fully, & woman will be appreciated at her full worth. Believe me, not only

our family, but many other Socialists here deeply sympathise with you in your great loss. Sometimes I get awfully tired & worn out & worried, & then I wonder whether we ought really to shed tears over those who fall into the "long, sweet sleep of death. Rest seems such a blessed thing when one's body & spirit are aching from the blows of the conflict. But then it is more for ourselves than for the dead loved ones that we mourn-- for the void that is created in our own lives !

Thanks for sub.Receipt enclosed. Also for your promise to write again. Our people here appreciate your matter very much; & if Dandelion's name is absent from an issue they pester me with inquiries . The "Pioneer" at Mackay, Queensland, reprinted with acknowledgement a portion of the "Candidate's Meeting". But you are wrong about the "Jingler". He is an up country cockatoo farmer (on Duntroon, Canberra, estate) . Always radical. He wrote kindly to me while I was at Queanbeyan, & is willing to help all he can-- I wish I could get Jack Bowling to write for the paper. I have got E.J.Brady, Roderic Quinn, Louis Essen, Harry Lawson; & some other great rankers are promising to do a little now & then in the way of verse. If we can keep the present standard up I think we shall reap a very wide circulation. Love & sympathy from Mrs. Holland & children & self. Remember us all kindly to Mrs. Cocking. Yours H.E.Holland."

The receipt is:- No.32. May 18, 1910. Received from Mr.W.T.S. Trener one shilling for one quarter's sub. to "International Socialist. H.E.Holland."

"XXXXXXXXXX"

"Wallaroo Mines, Sun. June 26, 1910. Dear Mary & Josiah, Your kind letter to hand on Saturday & carefully read by me . In responding to it, it is with the bitterest pangs of regret, the sad news of my dear Mother's death. Dear Josiah I beg forgiveness for not writing to you. In your last letter you seemed rather, & there have been so many ups & downs over in Newcastle. We had no idea where to write to. We have often conversed about you both, & have longed for a letter. Isn't it a pity that we neglect writing to each other ? However, I trust it will never happen again. Fred & I convey to you our deepest sympathy in your sad bereavement. The loss of your dear Mother is indeed a very bitter cup to drink of. I may say for this last 3 years it has been full of grief & sorrow to me; & although I do not wish to burden you with my trouble it does seem so consoling just now to me to be able to write to you & Mary, because Mother was so fond of you both. I feel you are a part of us. It is beautiful to know your Mother was prepared, because we shall all meet bye & bye when partings are no more. My dear Mother was ill only one week. The day she was taken she had made bread & saffron cake, a very rare thing for her to do; but I am so fond of it, but used to think it was too much exertion for her.. However, this day she was so lively

& happy. She put in the stove a few buns to try the heat of it. I fancy I see her now coming into my sewing room so pleased to think it was a success, with 2 of these buns for me to taste. She ate one; I ate the other. I said jokingly, "This is like Christmas cake, Mother, you have made it extra good this time". She returned to the kitchen to put in the remainder when Millie came running down saying "Grandma is so bad; she caught a pain in her heart!"

I shall never forget it, Mary, dear, I said, "Oh, Mother, dear, what is the matter?" I helped her into the dining room to her rocking chair & made a large plaster of mustard & put it all over her heart. Sent for the doctor. He said it was spasm round the heart had removed the heart out of the cup--& her being so far advanced-- 76-- she hadn't strength to fight against it. She was taken ill on a Friday & died on the following Friday. Miss her! I can not explain to you how much I miss my dear Mother; she was all the world to me. She died on the 9th of November 1906. Her end was beautiful. She wished us to sing when she was dying, "Shall we gather at the river." I am sorry to say I could not, we were too broken-hearted. She said, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod & Thy staff they comfort me". For all that week Jack & Fred remained from work. I got a woman in with me, but Mother would not let us leave her bed side. It is nearly 4 years, but my grief, at times, seems even more than I can bear. And then you remember Jemima, don't you? She died the 25th of last month-- in Boulder City--Western Australia. I am almost broken-hearted. She caught a cold; got influenza, & it settled in her legs & caused dropsy. She was laid up for ten weeks-- could not lie down-- sat in an easy chair wrapped in blankets. She had a terrible time of it. Before she died one of her legs burst-- it streamed buckets of water; & the blankets had to be changed 5 or 6 times a day. She would be 44 next month. Isn't it sad? Not for age. But we cannot understand the working of God. I suppose some day we'll read the meaning of our tears, & not until then will we understand. I had not seen her for 14 years, but thought of going over, never dreaming this would happen. We are going to get some photos copied. I will send you one.

Have you one of Mother? Let me know. I thought we gave you one when you were leaving, but have forgotten. Dear Josiah, I would like one of your family group. Ask Mary to write-- I would like to hear from her as well. She must find plenty to do. I often have a look at your photo.

You remember Jack's children living with us--Jack & Eva? About 15 months ago he got married & took the children. Little Eva almost broke her heart. She had only gone one week when I had to go & bring her home-- poor little soul! I felt giving them up just like a parent giving theirs away. But there it was! He is living

154.

at Paskeville, so I can often see them; they are in here as much as they are out there, almost.

And you remember Willie & Millie. I've had them for 13 years; & in April this year they both went to the West to their Father. He is married again. Millie is 18--a fine young woman. I got a place in a shop here for her, learning the millenery. She got on splendidly. She was about 18 months learning. She could make hats beautifully. You would not credit it, perhaps. Willie was in a boot shop, getting five shillings a week. But what do you think, Josiah? They did not find home when they left it. Millie is put to service. Can you wonder at me being heart-broken? When I put them on board at Port Adelaide my dear little Willie said, "Don't cry, Auntie; stay down till this boat returns: in one month I will be at home with you!"

My dear children! The home is not like home; & every letter I get from them upsets me more & more. They want to come home. He was one year & 8 months old when I took him. When he left he had his 15th birthday. So you will see I have had my troubles. I'm in a flood of tears from morning till night, almost. I am not married nor likely to be. Fred will be getting married some time-- I don't know when. I don't want for anything; only I would like my Willie home again. Do write! I will send papers later on. Kindly remember me to Jack; I remember him very well. I hope the children will soon be better from whooping-cough; it is a most distressing thing.

Accept our kindest regards. We ever remain yours affectionately
Fred & Emily Matthews, Wallaroo Mines, S.Aus.

Mr. Math. Mitchell desired to be remembered to you. He said he will give me some views of the Mines to send you later on.

Good night! God bless you both! Mr. Taylor has been dead for a considerable time. There are only the 2 of us now. Fred works in the mines. I think he was in West Australia. Fancy, Josiah, in less than 4 years there have been 5 removed out of this house. It is so very quiet that I scarcely know what to make of it."

(Answered 17th, 1910).

"Young Street, Adelaide, S.A. 7/8/10. Dear old Joe & Mrs.

Cocking, Your delightful, interesting, & instructive letter of some 5 months ago came duly to hand, & I should apologise for not answering sooner, but the fact is I have been away up country. The bricklayers went on strike (the wretches) & of course there was nothing in that line for the laborers to do. The bricklayers asked for a rise from 11/- to 12/- a day, & after 9 weeks, won. In the meantime I went to work on the Gawler to Angaston railway line. After the brickies started to work the laborers demanded a rise from 8/- to 9/- & without a strike, got what they wanted. The greedy pigs! So I got back to Adelaide a few weeks after work was resumed, & am now getting 9/-;

but while I was on the railway I was not idle. With the organization of the United Laborers' Union & a few others of the agitator persuasion I got nearly all the navvies into the union. But I am drifting. I wanted to explain that I was away between Gawler & Angaston when your letter arrived, & as I expected to get back every day, they did not forward it on to me. Since I have got back I have been putting off writing day after day owing to various causes. And now that I am in the mood to write I scarcely know what to write about.

In the first place let me congratulate you & Mrs. Cocking on the arrival of young Fred; & let me express the hope that he & all his brothers & his sister will have a better time, industrially, than their parents. I should say that by now you have that photo really addressed & will post it right away. We have not had a photo taken since we received your last, & I hardly think we will have another family group taken. However, Kitty is talking of having hers taken shortly, when I shall try to persuade her to send you one. We are all in good health. The rheumatism in my knee & arms has not vanished, but I can manage to keep the beggar under control better now.

I find that the whole trouble is caused, in ~~my~~ my case, through neglect to see that the bowels are kept in good working order. If I get careless & allow 2 or 3 days to pass without the bowels acting, as has frequently been the case "back along", & which also has happened once or twice during the past 2 years, for an absolute certainty my rheumatic pains will increase. On the other hand, if I keep the bowels in order so that they will act at least once a day, I go through the Winter without losing a day. My plan is to take as much Epsom salts as will go on a threepenny piece in my tea once a day for a while. Then I may leave them off for a time & the bowels will continue to act without them for a time. When costiveness again asserts itself I take a bottle or 2 of Morse's Indian Root pills, then rely for a time on Nature. Then again when medicine is required, Epsom salts, & so on.

In this way I manage to prolong my working days, but in the long run I feel that the rheumatism will beat me. I don't know whether you have been sending me any papers since ~~last~~ you wrote, but if you have they have been wasted, as we have left North Adelaide months ago. In fact they moved while I was away, a week after your letter came. And they did not instruct the postal officials to forward letters to present address. I saw the "International Socialist Review" up to the time I left for the country, & enjoyed your articles & verses, beg pardon, De Leon's articles & verses, very much indeed. "~~That~~ I thought the lines headed, "The Old Game Ain't What It ~~xxxx~~ Hughessed To Be", very good. And I give most of the credit to "Dandelion", & not to Dan de Leon. The latter may have, in some mysterious way, influenced the former, but the verses are

the product of the hand & brain & genius of "Dandelion"; & if, as publisher I had to make payment to the workers who produced that particular piece of marketable commodity I should consider only one man entitled to it, & that man the coon who attached the pen-name "Dandelion" to the bottom or top thereof; so there ! An awful thing is scepticism, my boy ! But handy. Likewise a beautiful thing is modesty-- when not over-developed.

No, my son, I have not done much writing for years. I am sure I have no aptitude for that kind of work. It looks easy, but to me it is harder graft than "car'n" bricks. I did have a try some time back in the "Daily Herald", Adelaide's Labor daily, but it was not a conspicuous success. Peter Golding, of Kadina, is always pestering me & pulling my poor rheumatic leg to such an extent that I sometimes fall a victim to his blandishments; but not often. While I was up country I could not help contrasting the advance made, industrially, in the conditions of the navy during the last 25 to 30 years. We had just held a meeting at my camp fire & had decided, by motion, to refuse to continue working with non-unionists after next pay-day. I was in bunk, smoking, & was contrasting the well-behaved navy of to-day with his semi-savage prototype of 30 years ago. I don't know whether it might have been that awful Golding telepathically pulling my leg, or not, but I know that I popped both legs into my old pants, & out came pencil & paper, hey, presto ! Article No. 1 headed "Industrial Advancement", by "Psac O'Homan". This was followed up a week later by another article, "The Navy & the Nation." by the same eminent writer. Then, in startlingly quick succession, 5 others on, "Some Axx Ailments Of The Body Politic" ! Peter did not notice the first 2, & kept urging the old conundrum, "When are you going to write that article ?" Then, as the boys say, I "got to him". And although I have written nothing for six weeks he is keeping quiet on that subject; but I am expecting word shortly. I am rather glad that I haven't kept the papers on which those literary crudities were perpetrated, because I cannot now forward them to you. One candid critic is enough at a time; & Golding can be brutally candid "when he mind to". Do you ever see the Melbourne "Socialist" ? If so, look up issue of July 29th last & see the article headed, "A Chapter On Militarism"--Interesting Personal Record", by "Verema" (Esperanto for "Truthful"). You can take my word that that is a truthful record of a little adventure of my early manhood; whether it is interesting is another matter. Anyhow, the editor was somewhat tardy in putting it in print. I wrote that 10 or 11 months ago, & looked somewhat anxiously for its appearance, after the manner of all beginners, for a few weeks, & then gave up the idea of its appearance.

You may judge of my surprise when I saw its appearance a fort-

night ago. Was it mislaid, or were they short of copy that particular week? In my modest moments I think one of the former, while, in my egotistical moods I incline to the latter solution. Anyhow, it doesn't matter!

Yes, Joe, I am a member of the Socialist party, but I don't think I shall continue there. Reason? Because the members are not credited with enough brains or commonsense to know when to vote or when to refrain from voting. Last Conference re-affirmed the attitude of the previous conference on the matter of voting, declaring that no Socialist whose branch is affiliated with the Socialist Federation Of Australia may vote for other than revolutionary Socialists, no matter if no rev. socialist is a candidate. Now, I was going to pull out before the elections because it is just possible, if I had been in Adelaide, I would have voted against D.M. Charleston for the Senate, & the only way I could vote against him is by voting for three others. And to stand by and see such an avowed enemy of the workers win is something I could not be guilty of. It is fine to talk of consistency, but there are many ways of being inconsistent. And there is a lot of cant indulged in by some leading Socialists. I claim to know when to vote & who to vote for when no Socialist is standing. I shall vote for or against a Labor candidate, or Socialist, if I think it is the best in the interest of humanity. I feel sure that many who seem to acquiesce in the Conference's dictum will not submit, yet will continue their membership. I prefer honesty, even with isolation. Sorry to tell you that Fred Martin was killed by a fall of rock at Wallaroo mines last week. He is a son of Jack Martin, blacksmith--a friend of yours. Fred left 5 children. It is now 10 p.m., & I have been writing since 3 o'clock. But in yourself & Peter Golding I have an ideal audience. It is good to have friends who understand one. I would have liked to go into the coal strike & its want of result, but no space. Joseph Maccabe has been here & gave us 4 lectures which shook Fossildom to its foundations. Hoping you are all well, yours for truth & right, P. O'Grady, 726 Young St., Adelaide.

P.S. No, I have had no letter from H. Holland re contributing to the paper. You may depend upon it that they have more good stuff than they can find room for without digging & delving for mediocrities. Please don't do it again. P.O'G."

From "The International Socialist Review" of Jan. 1, 1910.

"THE OLD GAME AIN'T WHAT IT HUGHESSED TO BE."
BY "Dandelion".

"Mr. W.M. Hughes has signified his intention of leaving the strike for Mr. Wade to settle."-- Vide Daily Press.

Oh, my friends, excuse this weeping,

I am slowly, sadly creeping
 To my peaceful rural cottage & my poley, roany cow;
 And my broken heart is aching,
 And my shattered nerves are quaking,
 Through the awful mental shaking I experienced just now !

And as Caesar felt I'm feeling
 When from Brutus he was reeling
 With the fratricidal dagger in his over-trustful breast;
 For my friend, my foster-brother
 (I shall never trust another)
 Has most shamefully deserted me & threatened my arrest ! ! !

Oh, my heart is alla-flutter,
 And the words I feebly utter
 Can but faintly unto you convey the thoughts I would express:
 From the Strike's first curst beginning
 I've been sinned against--not sinning,
 And I've done my very darnedest toensure its non-success.

I have circumvented Bowling.
 I have stopped the flames from rolling
 From the center of Australia to the circumfluent sea;
 I have spoken long & shrilly
 On the beauties of CON-SILLY,
 Feder-- Moder-- Arbitr-- ATION, & the Golden Age to be !

I have ^{read} great chunks of Latin
 At the chairs the Congress sat in,
 To convince it that what's black is white, & white is really black
 My encyclopaedic learning
 I have utilised, thus earning
 Welcome plaudits of the "Telegraph" & "Herald"; but, alack ! !

I am flustered and disgusted
 And my happiness is busted
 By the latest Act of Gregory whose surname sounds like Weighed
 (In the Balance and Found Wanting);
 And his looks and accents, taunting
 Have completely flabbergasted me & made me quite afraid.

I have always been in favour
 Of the wage-slave-owning Slaver
 (Tho I must keep up appearances to get the wag-slave's vote !)
 And from North West Cape to Jervis
 I am always at the service
 Of my fellow-Labor Fakirs and co-patriots. The note
 Of my voice has, inter alia,

Just re-echoed o'er Australia,
 And, commingled with the traitor-tones of Fisher, floated down
 To COMPEL the plundered toiler
 To defend his own despoiler,
 And to fight & die for Irvine, Wade, Hogue, Darling, & J. Brown.

With my eloquence & humour
 I have helped the lying rumour
 That the Jap with blood & thunder was to cross the Northern
 And, in war-paint & regalia, Sea,
 Was about to take Australia.
 FROM THE WORKERS(WHO DON'T OWN IT) ! Then for Wade to turn on
 ME !

It reminds me of the fabæ
 Of the lawyer, near a stable;
 Who destroyed a brother adder by a dung-hill on the plain,
 And of how the Bevel, smiling,
 Said the incident, beguiling,
 Was a pleasant reminiscence of poor Abel & old Cain.

But, for reasons I have stated,
 I am far, far from elated,
 And from henceforth I will back my cart & rest my weary jade:
 I can suffer blacklegs coaling,
 And the scorn of Peter Bowling,
 BUT WHAT HURTS MY TENDER FEELINGS IS INGRATITUDE FROM WADE!

So I'M leaving, sadly leaving !
 Ah, kind friends, excuse my grieving;
 I am going back to Nature with my laurels on my brow;
 And in future, with my neices,
 Nephews, aunts, & THIRTY PIECES,
 I shall henceforth live in clover with my roany, poley cow !

From the "International Socialist Review", Jan. 8, 1910.

"ESSENTIALS OF SUCCESS. By "Dandelion".

Shakespeare has written that "it is not in mortals to command success"; but, like much more that the great playwright wrote, it is only true under certain circumstances. Success may be commanded by mortals when they have sufficient knowledge to provide the necessary conditions. Even such a simple, easy operation as lighting the kitchen fire will always be impossible of accomplishment if the matches & fuel are wet. The essentials of success are dry matches, dry fuel, & a little skill in arranging the fuel & applying the match. And in the more import-

ant operation of conducting a strike certain conditions are absolutely essential to ensure success. The first essential is an exciting cause of sufficient magnitude to arouse the resentment of the workers. This is generally found in the evident desire of the masters to crush the toilers down to the lowest depths of poverty & slavery. The next essential is a feeling of class-consciousness -- that is a feeling that each & every worker belongs to a class that is quite separate, distinct, & isolated from the employing class; a sense of being dependent, despoiled, & degraded as a class. The third essential of success is unity. All the workers should belong to one union, or, at least, should be one in aim & principle, even if they are unfortunately divided into separate craft unions.

The fourth essential is secrecy. "In vain is the net spread in the sight of the bird", saith the Scriptures; & a moment's reflection will suffice to show any reasoning man or woman that the power of Capitalism is not to be broken by taking the capitalists into our confidence by publishing our plans of campaign. Informers should be instantly & ignominiously expelled & ostracised. No official should be permitted to give "interviews" to press reporters concerning the business of his union.

The workers should imitate the union of the Knights of Labor in the early part of its career. The fifth essential is courage, & determination to win. Half-hearted fighters never win; & the man who is not resolved to succeed or suffer death is always ready to listen to the "moderate", "right-thinking" person who will persuade him that his ship is on the rocks, & that the only way to save something from the wreck is to arbitrate, conciliate, & compromise. The history of Labor battles stinks with the names of those "friends" of Labor who have traitorously filled the strikers' minds with the fear of defeat instead of fanning the fire of their courage & determination.

The sixth essential of success is knowledge. Not that it is necessary to know universal history, or Latin, or to be conversant with the principles of astronomy or the other sciences; but the workers in this 20th century should know the full extent of their rights as men, and their might as organised masses of humanity. They should know that everyone who comes into the world has the right to have life, liberty, & happiness; & that these are destroyed by the present social anarchy known as Capitalism. Unless & until the workers--the victims of Capitalism--realise that their lives, their liberty, and their happiness are destroyed by Capitalism there will be no hope of them achieving permanent success in their struggles with their capitalist owners & masters. The workers should know that Capitalism is useless and dangerous to the workers as a class, & therefore should be abolished. They should also know that the power to destroy Capitalism is ALREADY IN THEIR OWN HANDS.

When we, as workers, realise that we make the world what it is--

that we are the servile creators of all that is useful & beautiful; & that without us the idle, parasitic class which lives upon us would wither away like Jonan's gourd, we shall be able to COMMAND success, which is more than to deserve it. Let us have class-consciousness, unity, courage, determination, & a knowledge of our right & power; & not all the trimmers, traitors, & masters in the universe can prevent us from being successful in this or any future fight."

From

HOW MANY BEANS MAKE FIVE ?

By "DANDELION."

This is the question that the boy in the fable was asked to answer, and to which he replied, "Two in each hand and one in the mouth." If he had been asked how many men are equal to five, he would, had he been cute enough, have replied, Well that depends entirely upon the state of their minds, and their consequent relation to one another. If ten men are divided into two parties of five each, and both are at war against each other, the party that had enough sense to act in unity would be equal to 20 acting disunitedly. Unity is strength, disunity is weakness. Four men in one union plus one man to put their united wills into effect, make five; and these five are far more than equal to the power of the same or another five of whom each acts on his own account and independently of the others. This principle in working-class arithmetic applies as well to thousands as to fives or single units; and the truth of it becomes plain when a small, armed, drilled body of soldiers acts in unity against a very large

body of men acting without a recognised head, and with no common aim. This truth is so well known that at first sight it might seem needless to mention it, but it is a first principle which seems at the present juncture to be forgotten by the workers of the West. The battle of Laborers versus Capitalists on which they were, and even now are, engaged has not been won. This battle will not be won by the efforts of one regiment of the Army of Labor, but will finally be won by the united army, fighting industrially at the one time, all over the earth.

Combination begets increased power. This is true, not only in economics, but even in chemistry. Take a pinch of sulphur, a little charcoal, and a bit of nitre, and mix them well together and keep on mixing and blending them for a year, and what is the result? Nothing, except that you have a grain of powder. The three ingredients are simply a mechanical mixture, with no more power than they had when separate. But now apply an electric

spark, and presto! the dead, weak, inert mass becomes imbued with sudden and surprising power. Where did that power come from? Not from the spark—THAT was simply insignificant, but from the powder itself. The spark has simply caused the dead, weak substances to COMBINE (whereas they were previously only mixed), and thus brought out the power which had been latent, hidden, in them all the time, but which could not make itself evident until that union had been affected.

In like manner every worker has within himself and herself a latent power to become the owner and enjoyer of life, liberty and happiness in the fullest possible measure, but that stored-up power can never be used whilst they are isolated and uncombined.

When the vital, electric spark of class-consciousness enters into the minds of the workers they will COMBINE in one union having one aim, one method, and will act at one and the same time to get what they desire, and when combined in one vast organisation their latent power will become manifest, and will be used to break down all opposition and render the producing class the owning class as well. "Yes, but all this is

visionary and utopian," some one may say. "Human nature is too selfish, and men and women are too ignorant to combine, and by their combination bring out and use their latent power." The answer to this lies right under our eyes and all around us. Bad as things are for the toiling class, they would be far worse if they did not even now combine in various ways to make life endurable under capitalism. Look at the friendly societies, such as the Gardeners, Foresters, Druids, Oddfellows, Freemasons, and other sodalities that exist for the express purpose of making life possible and endurable under the present insane social system. Man is a gregarious animal, and runs in flocks like sheep or goats. People DO combine now, but they do not combine with the object of ending at once and forever the stupid social chaos which renders all their struggling societies necessary. The workers are ignorant, it is true, but that is a mental defect that is fast being cured by socialist agitators and propagandists. Every year there are more workers in the ranks of the Socialists than in the previous year.

Socialist societies are springing up everywhere—even in Japan—and their pa-

pers are becoming more numerous and influential every year. Human nature is not something that is unchangeable. It changes continually because its environment alters continually, and human nature is modified by the conditions that surround it. And as for human nature being selfish, the history of labor proves that the workers in all ages have been very generous. Who keep the widows, the orphans, the destitute? Why the workers. Who maintain the world's gentlemen and fine ladies in luxurious idleness? The workers do. Who provide palaces and parks and spacious grounds for the favored few? The generous toilers every time.

And who are they that live in badly built, badly ventilated, badly drained houses while the fortunate few enjoy superb mansions on the hill-tops? Why, none but the unselfish palace builders! Who crowd together, 15 in one small room, or live in highly-rented damp, dingy cellars, and sacrifice themselves and their rickety children to enable noble lords and ladies to live in grandeur, in castles and palatial country seats? None but the unselfish workers. No, the workers are not selfish; they are too generous, too chari-

table; too self-denying. They produce all the things of use and beauty that are in the world to-day, and are satisfied, aye, supremely happy if they can get enough of the product of their own labor to feed and clothe themselves and children. The fact is we are not selfish! We are too modest in our demands. For instance, take the miners of the Newcastle district. When they work they are paid $4/2$ for getting a ton of large coal, which is sold for $11/$ per ton. They are paid one-eighth of a penny per ton for the small coal that is inadvertently filled with the big coal, and this small coal is sold for $6/6$ per ton. Now, if $4/2$ per ton is a fair price for getting a ton of "round" coal at $11/$, and if small coal was sold at only $5/6$ per ton (which is only half the value of round coal) then the miners should demand $2/1$ per ton for getting small coal. Instead of $2/1$ however, the charitable miners are only asking to be paid one shilling per ton for small coal! And yet we are told that human nature is too selfish!

It is time that this bald-headed old falsehood was consigned to the limbo of exploded lies. Human nature is not too selfish to permit the workers to combine together and use their invincible might

to wrest from the owning idle, or mischievously active few, the means of life. Neither is the intelligent worker too stupid to understand his or her true position and condition in society as a wage-slave when the facts are clearly and boldly stated. The workers are combining now, and the process will go on with ever-increasing speed and over ever-widening areas in the nearfuture. Even now 150,000 miners are united in a strike for the Eight Hour from bank to bank principle in England.

When they become less generous to the idle plundering parasites who own the mines the miners will demand a working day of four hours from bank to bank.

Meanwhile their strike will help us, and if the Indian and Japanese miners together with those nearer home would only do the same, success would be swift and sure. And meanwhile the Socialist stands with his eager hand on the switch trying to flash the spark of class-consciousness into the minds of his toiling fellow-slaves, and says:

"We touch the button, you do the rest."

Propaganda meetings in the Domain, Park Street and Martin Place on Sunday.

Miners' Fund.

	£	s	d
Previously acknowledged	4	17	4
A. Unsen ..	0	1	0
H.D. ..	0	2	0
K. ..	0	0	6
Gust ..	0	1	0
H. Buhning ..	0	1	0
H.E.H. ..	0	1	0
Mrs H.E.H. ..	0	1	0
<hr/> Total ..	£5	4	10

Election Fund.

	£	s	d
Previously acknowledged	0	2	6
Mr. Anelocholt ..	0	1	0
P.P. ..	0	2	0
<hr/> Total ..	£0	5	6

Dunleavy and Morgan pleaded with the Kembla men to throw over the North by accepting the Wages Board—and by a thumping majority Kembla declined the advice.

Said that next time Billy Hughes goes to Bulli, the meeting will be secretly arranged, and he will take sufficient police to arrest every one who has the temerity to disagree with him.

The capitalist system gives to the capitalist an ever-swelling stream of profits, and to the worker an ever increasing measure of misery and degradation.

AN INFAMOUS PLOT.

To Bring Socialist Propagandists Within the Reach of the Capitalist Law—perhaps to Hang Them.

SHORTLY before Mr. H. Borax left Sydney he received the letter printed below. So indignant was he at the depth of the treachery and the diabolical untruthfulness which that letter revealed that he refused to in any way reply to the effusion. When he left these shores, however, Mr. Borax left the letter behind him, with full authority to publish it, if publication should be deemed necessary in the interests of the Socialist movement. The Socialist Executive has now decided that publication is advisable—firstly, to clear the genuine Socialist movement of the suspicion of crime which it has been so basely attempted to fasten on it; and, secondly, to let the working class know what manner of a man the author of the letter is.

It has come to our knowledge that A SOMEWHAT SIMILAR LETTER HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE AUTHORITIES, but whose signature the latter epistle bears we are not in a

position to say; and this fact, read along with the letter hereunder printed, should make some people think hard.

THE LETTER.

18 Wilson St., Redfern,
Sydney, 3/12/09.

Mr. H. BORAX.

Dear Comrade,—I enclose you a letter for your Press Committee. Please place it before them at your early convenience. That letter is for publication, in the interests of the Socialist movement; this is a private letter to yourself in which I intend to place before you certain facts which I have not felt justified in using publicly. I hope you will consider it in a non-partisan spirit. I know I have every confidence in your sincerity. I believe you are going back to Germany pleased with the thought that you have done your best for the cause in Australia. But there remains yet a further service for you to render, unless I, who have also done my best, without reward, and without asking for reward, even as yourself, am very much mistaken.

This is the fact I want to you consider: About six weeks ago I met a former member—he may still be a member for all I know to the contrary—of the I.S. Club. He positively electrified me by warning me of the danger of mere inflammatory speeches, and stated

The following was published in the "International Socialist Review" of Jan. 22, 1910:-

SIMPLE DIVISION.

By "Dandelion".

"A house divided against itself shall not stand," says the Old Book, & it is true. It is also true that a class rent asunder rent asunder by the treachery of leaders will not-- cannot stand, but must collapse soon or late. The division which has been made by Hughes and Wade in the section of the working class that is now on strike or is directly affected by the strike should be remedied at once if the workers of Australia are to stand up before their open & covert enemies. The spectacle of the workers being divided & carrying on & carrying on an internecine war in their own ranks is one that will fill the Capitalists with delight. No such silly, suicidal game is being carried on by the owning class while they are at war with the workers. To be successful each worker should be at peace & united with every other worker in the Commonwealth, for an injury to one is an injury to all; & a benefit to one is ~~again~~ gain to all.

Simple division is the sum of simple unionism, of pure & simple unionists, & simply impure fakirs who trade upon the simplicity of the workers. Simple division must be met by simple unity & common, working-class honesty, which will heal the gaping wound which the treacherous knife of a crafty labor-bleeder has opened in the body of Labour. Such "Leaders" should be sent at once into the camp of the enemy-- where they really belong. Unity being so essential to the success of the workers in their long battle for life and liberty, any "leader" who causes a division in the labor army should be politically & socially shot for black treachery. It is not yet too late to repair the damage done to the cause of the strikers by the forced retreat & surrender of the Western miners. That they have been misled must be very evident to them by this time, & it is not too late to do what they can to secure success to the Army of Labor. They were tricked into a cowardly retreat-- into deserting their struggling comrades of the North & South-- to please the greatest foe of their own class south of the Line. This man who aspires to be the First Citizen of Australia-- the "leader" of Australian Labor-- forcibly reminds me of Shakespeare's play, "Coriolanus", Act 1, Scene 1:-

Menenius:- "What do you think? You, the great toe of this assembly? First Citizen: "I the great toe? Why the great toe?" Menenius: "For that, being one of the lowest, basest, poorest, of this most wise rebellion, thou go'st foremost: Thou rascal, thou art worst in blood to run, lead'st first to win some vantage. But make you ready your stiff bats and clubs; Rome and her rats are at the point of battle; the one side must have bale. (Enter Caius Marcius). Hail, noble Marcius!

Mar: Thanks. What's the matter, you dissentious rogues that,

163
 # rubbing the poor itch of your opinion , make yourselves scabs.

First Cit: We have ever your good word. Mar: He that will give good words to thee will flatter beneath abhorring. What would you have, you curs, that like not peace nor war? The one affrights you; the other makes you proud. He that trusts to you, where he should find you lions, finds you hares; where foxes; geese; you are no surer, ne, than is the coal of fire upon the ice, or hailstones in the sun. Your virtue is to make him worthy whose offence subdues him and curse that justice did it. Who deserves greatness deserves your hate; and your affections are a sick man's appetite, who desires most that which would increase his evil. He that depends upon your favors swims with fins of lead. And hews (Hughes) down oaks with rushes. Hang ye! Trust ye? With every minute you do change your mind and call him noble that was now your hate, him vile that was your garland. What's the matter that in these several places of the city you cry against the noble senate, who, under the gods, keep you in awe, which else would feed on one another. What's their seeking?

Menenius: For corn at their own rates; whereof they say the city is well stored.

Mar: (Wade) Hang 'em! They say! They'll sit by the fire and presume to know what's done at the Capitol; who's like to rise, who thrives and who declines; side factions and give out conjectural marriages; making parties strong and feebling such as stand not in their liking below their cobbled shoes. They say there's grain enough? Would the nobility lay aside their ruth and let me use my sword, ~~and~~ I'd make a quarry with thousands of these quartered slaves, as high as I could pick my lance.

Menenius: Nay, these are almost thoroughly persuaded; for though abundantly they lack discretion, yet are they passing cowardly. But I beseech you, what says the other troop? (Western miners). Mar. They are dissolved. Hang 'em. They said they were an hungry; sighed forth proverbs, that hunger broke stone walls, that dogs must eat; that meat was made for mouths, that the gods sent not corn for the rich men only: with these shreds they vented their complainings; which being answered and a petition granted them, a strange one-- to break the heart of generosity, and make their bold power look pale-- they threw their caps as they would hang them on the horns of the moon, shouting their emulation.

Men: What is granted them?

Mar: (Wade) Five tribunes to defend their vulgar wisdoms of their own choice: One's Junius Brutus, Sicinius ~~Brutus~~ Velutus, and I know not-- 'Sdeath! The rabble should have first unroofed the city ere so prevailed with me: it will in time win upon power and throw forth greater themes for insurrection's arguing.

Men: This is strange.

Mar: ¹⁶⁴ Go, get you home, fragments."

This very instructive play is an ancient instance of the forces of the hungry defrauded workers being defeated by the equally ancient process of simple division-- the granting of small concessions temporarily to small sections, whereby they are induced to break away from the main body of their fellows, who are thus weakened. And when they are at last divided and reduced by this plan, the capitalistic drovers and their labor-fakir sheep-dogs are in a position to say, like Marcius: Go, get you back to your slavery, you fragments !

Fragments ! Rome and her rats !

In this 20th century the working class should not let it be possible for the rat-owners to disdainfully fling the insult "Fragments" at them. It is humiliating enough to be called "rats", "hands", "my employees", etc., but it is infinitely more humiliating to be called "fragments".

If the workers are reduced to fragments at the present juncture by the mine-owning legislators it means that the majority of workers are incurably stupid; for the desire of the owners and their conspirators in parliament are out to use the old device-- simple division-- is so plain, so palpable, so abundantly evident, that no man whose brain is in working order should be duped by it.

If the workers of N.S.W. allow Hughes and Wade to split them into fragments by means of temporary advantages & seeming concessions (which will all be wrested out of their grasp again when the whole mass is reduced to remnants), it is proof that the modern Australian should forthwith go out and take down his sign-- "Advance Australia ", and put up in place thereof the zodiacal sign of Cancer--the Crab.

But it is not likely! The schoolmaster & the socialist have been abroad, and the simple lesson that Unity, not Division, is Strength is being rapidly learnt.

In arithmetic twice one equals two; but in working-class economics & in the struggle of the workers for freedom twice one combined equals 3 fighting single-handed ! This is true of thousands as of individuals.

It is not too late for the Western fragment, that has been treacherously split off from the main body, to rejoin, and do its fair share in the noble work of emancipating the wage-slaves of Australia. It is not too late for the men who "go down to the sea in ships" (and very often don't come up again) to keep the ocean white so far as blackleg coal is concerned.

Neither is it too late for the coal trimmers to do like Little Billy--wash the coal off their hands & keep them clean.

It is not too late for all honest men to become class-conscious to unite in aim & action, & thereby defeat those who are at present defeating and defrauding them by SIMPLE DIVISION !

"OWED" TO KITCHENER.

(Widow & Orphan Maker to Baccarat & Co., Empire Builders.)
By "Dandelion" in the "International Socialist Review" of
Jan. 22, 1910.

"We take off our hats to K. of K."-- "Newcastle Herald".

Arise, ye slaves, take off your hats, & make the welkin boom
With snouts of joy, from sharps & flats, for Kitch'ner of Khartoum
The "Hempire," built of blood and bone,
He's helped for thirty years;
The skulls beneath its gilded throne
He's washed with orphan's tears !

Behold the man, behold the man !
How haughtily he stands,
The hero of the red Soudan,
With bloodstains on his hands !!

Oh, let the crimson bunting fly
From flagstaff, mast, and spars;
Throw up your hats above the sky
And hang them on the stars !

Oh, welcome him, ye slaves & tools,
Ye "hands" who sweat and toil,
And let each nation see what fools
Are bred on Austral soil !

Ring welcome bells from East to West,
Tell ev'ry bride and groom
How Kitch'ner saved the interest
For Ikey, at Khartoum !

Lord Kitch'ner is a striking plute--
No Arbitrationist;
He settles ev'ry not dispute
With rifle in his fist.

'Tis right, it seem, to "strike" for Fat,
To murder and destroy;
Such pay-triatic acts as that
Fill plutocrats with joy.

The fools who slay their fellow-men
That live in foreign parts
Are purchased by the Upper Ten
To open foreign marts.

The parsons bless them ere they go,

And bless them on their way:
 "Great God, from whom all blessings flow",
 Grant victory", they pray.

The plundered workers rush & rave
 To kill with steel and shell,
 And each his stupid brother-slave
 Sends shuddering to Hell !

What boots it that the war-drums beat
 And blazing cannons roar;
 Have widows, orphans, more to eat ?
 Are workers' wages more ?

The tome of history is red
 With blood; and stained with tears
 For fifty million victims shed
 Through fifty hundred years;

The wail of orphans still resounds
 O'er blasted plain and hill;
 The trail of War's unsated hounds
 Grows red, and redder still !

Australia, cursed with drought & flood,
 Has not yet the disgrace
 Of streams of fratricidal blood
 Upon her virgin face.

But danger looms on ev'ry hand,
 For, bound by " crimson thread",
 And sold by title hunters, bland,
 To quarrels she is led;

To squabble with Old England's foes,
 To sing her martial airs,
 To aid her when she pokes her nose
 In other lands' affairs !

To doff our hats to " K of K ",
 To wade through seas of gore,
 And march away with banners gay
 Like other fools before !

So give hee-haws for Hughes and Wade,
 Let's train ourselves & sons
 To fight with Cook in Fat's brigade
 And face their foemen's guns !

Let ev'ry working-class galloot,

Each softy, mug, and clown,
 Don uniforms & learn to shoot
 For THOSE who crush ~~them~~ ~~down~~ them ~~down~~ down.

Be patriotic, "play the game",
 Give up your useless lives;
 Give "Statesmen" honor, ease, and fame,
 Make "Ladies" of their wives.

Give plutocrats fruit, corn, & milk
 To sate their bloated guts;
 Give palaces and rustling silk,
 BUT LIVE IN RAGS AND HUTS !

Yes, lift your hats to Butcher K.,
 And grovel in the dust,
 Don't be disloyal: shout "Hooray !"
 That's if you think you MUST,

But if their game you understand,
 And if you're men of sense
 YOU'LL MAKE THE THUGS WHO OWN THE LAND
 STAND UP IN ~~ITS~~ ITS DEFENCE !

The following appeared in the "Internationalist Socialist Review" of Jan. 29, 1910.

NORTH TO WEST. By Dandelion.

You're a worker, I'm another;
 I would grip your hand, my brother !
 Time & distance cannot smother
 Friendship's spark between us twain;
 We are fighting Labor's battle
 Minus cannons' roar and rattle,
 For a life above dumb cattle.
 Let us join our hands again !

Let misunderstandings never
 Our fraternal handshake sever,
 Let's be ONE in our endeavor--
 In our struggle for the Right.
 Let no cunning politician,
 Demagogue, or rhetorician,
 Drive the wedges of suspicion
 And our forces disunite.

Let us severed be by no man,
 Let us stand like ancient Roman,
 And UNITED meet the foeman;
 For DIVIDED we shall fall !

Working men have common feeling,
Common int'rest, common dealing,
Common sense that's now revealing
What hurts one will injure ALL.

Be not gulled by small concessions,
Grecian gifts and false impressions,
Join us in our great processions,
Marching, fighting, to be free :
Through the lightning and the thunder,
'Gainst the hosts of Law and Plunder;
Where, if North and South go under,
Where will your concessions be ?

Will the foes that crush your fellow
(Be he white, brown, black, or yellow)
Give YOU milk and honey mellow,
Nectar sweet, and sparkling dew ?
Will they club the largest section
Into helpless, dumb subjection,
And then grant, with fond affection,
Life and freedom to a few ?

See our leaders falling, falling,
Hear the North and South men calling,
Help us shed our shackles, galling;--
Would you have your children slaves ?
Don't of arbitration prattle;
Help us, help us in the battle !
Must we be dumb-driven cattle
From the cradle to the grave ?

Must we live in hut and hovel ?
Must we humbly cringe and grovel ?
Is there nothing noble, novel,
Unto which we might aspire ?
Must we ever keep on spinning,
Digging, building, weaving, winning,
And, till death, from life's beginning,
Grovel in the mud and mire ?

Does no Star of Hope shine o'er us ?
Does not Freedom lie before us ?
Should we swell the parsons' chorus--
" Work and want, and be content ?"
No ! Let's rise and be united!
All our wrongs will then be righted,
And the Golden Gate be sighted
In earth's isles and continents !

From the "International Socialist Review" of Jan, 29, 1910.

"BRITONS NEVER SHALL BE SLAVES. By "Dandelion".

"Reference has already been made to the fact that some of the men have returned to work at 2 of the Maitland collieries. It ~~xxxx~~ now transpires that some of the ~~Mxxxx~~ members of the Mechanics' Union were also sent for, & certain proposals made to them. They were told that they could return to work on condition that they signed an agreement pledging themselves to sever their connection with their union & not to join any other union. Some of the men, taken by surprise, signed the agreement, though one or 2 refused to do so. The men who had signed the agreement feel that they had made a mistake, & they were anxious to cease work again on Saturday, but were advised by a responsible officer to continue working, so as not to bring themselves into conflict with the law, & steps would be taken to bring the matter before the notice of the chairman of the Colliery Wages Board. For it is stated on good authority that a similar agreement will be presented to men who apply for work at other collieries in the district."-- Newcastle Herald, Jan. 18 1910.

It is seldom that a declaration of intentions on the part of the masters of the producers & distributors of wealth is made so clearly & so brutally as is done in the quotation above. It is well-- best indeed -- that the declaration has been made. The workers now see a little of what is in store for them if they are beaten in the present struggle for better conditions. "NO UNIONS IN FUTURE FOR THE WORKERS!"

That is the fiat issued by the men who are suffered by a working nation to bos & rob them of leisure, comfort, peace, & life its elf. These few, backed by a press, a parliament, & a pulpit that are a positive disgrace to any age or country, have the sublime cheek to tell those upon whose unrequited labor they live that in future the flag shall fly over a nation of isolated, separated slaves, who shall never be allowed to combine again whilst they are employed by their masters; that on the industrial field, as well as on the battlefield under Lord Almighty Kitchener, they must be subject to discipline, & give unquestioning & willing obedience to their superiors.

This is a virtual revival of the "Ironclad Oath" taken by employees of an American company some years ago. We are getting on! The proprietors say we shall have no unions; the legislators say we shall have no strikes; the parsons denounce our organisers & agitators, & the press sees to it that we shall have no justice. Are the workers willing to stand this latest insult & threat? Will they bow down humbly in the dirt & sign the new "agreement"

THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN.

By DANDELION.

When Mr. John Patterson was asked if he had anything to say in reply to the accusation of Mr. Bowling that he had, by taking a position on the (Arbitration) Board, betrayed the trust reposed in him, Mr. Paterson said he did not wish to say anything at present, and he would have to bear, for a time, the frowns and grey faces of the men whom he was doing his best to benefit. He considered it would be unwise to say anything at present; but when the present trouble was over he would have something to say that would be a revelation.—“Newcastle Herald,” Dec. 22nd, 1909.

Let the Socialist Band play savagely—
“When the Mists Have Rolled Away.”

WHEN the present storm has vanished from the range of human eyes,
And the welcome sun has banished ev'ry storm-cloud in the skies,
Just remind me of the promise that you now receive from John—
That I'll make a revelation when the strike is past and gone!

CHORUS.

You shall know what I have known;
You shall see what I've been shown;
When the present war and darkness shall give place to peace and day,
I will make a revelation that will fill you with dismay!

For the present I am bearing, with the patience of a saint,
All the frowns my friends are wearing, though my heart is weak and faint:
And I feel the same as Judas felt in ancient Galilee,
But I'll gain a heap of kudos when the searchlight shines from me.

And— (Chorus)

I have been an agitator in the very recent past;
And an earnest advocator of one union, strong and vast—
E'en the “New Industr'al Union of the Workers of the World,”
With the toilers in communion; and its banner I unfurled.

But— (Chorus)

I have made a great oration to the miners from the pits;
And have shattered Arbitration into forty thousand bits,
And I've hurled Wade's imposition o'er the rainbow in the sky;
And, like Ajax, in position stood, Wade's lightning to defy!!

Now— (Chorus)

But, alas! all Nature alters (and of Nature I'm a part),
Courage—language—fails and falters, and at nought the wicked start;
Eve was spotless till temptation changed the aspect of the scene;
And my lily reputation isn't what it might have been,

But— (Chorus)

In the starry dome of Labor I have climbed the Milky Way,
 (With one optic on my neighbor, and the other on the pay),
 To the presidency shifted by the miners—coal and shale—
 But the more the monkey's lifted up the more he shows his tail.

Nevertheless— (Chorus)

I am now an arbitrator in the Court of Comrade Wade—
 (Miners spell it "barpy-traitor," and imagine they're betrayed),
 For they passed a resolution that they'd arbitrate no more,
 But there'll be a revolution; for, as I remarked before—

(Chorus)

Yes, I'll set the thunders crashing o'er the sea from shore to shore;
 Lurid lightnings shall be flashing, and old Time shall be no more;
 For the wreck of all creation you shall gaze, with wonder, on
 When you hear the revelation of

Yours faithfully,

SAINT JOHN!

To Correspondents.

G.W. (North Sydney).—
 Will endeavor to publish in
 an early issue. At the pre-
 sent time, owing to our limited
 space, we have copy in hand
 to fill our next three issues.

J.T. (Newtown). — Space
 does not permit the publication
 of your letter on Mr. Hughes.

R.S.R. (Melbourne).—Let-
 ters received. Writing.

E.J.B. (Malacoota).—Writ-
 ing.

M.K. (St. Peters), J. H.
 (Camperdown), S.L. (Kurri),
 and E.D. (Newcastle).—See
 reply to "J.T."

E.A.G. (Broken Hill). —
 Thanks for your long and very
 interesting letter. Will reply
 as early as possible.

THE JINGLER (Canberra).—
 Articles and verse received.
 Will use as space permits.

M.R. (Cootamundra).—No
 space for your letter. Sorry;
 but we MUST deal with the
 more urgent strike events.
 You can help the Socialist
 movement best by getting
 subscribers for the "Review"
 —the only revolutionary So-
 cialist paper in N.S.W.

H.A.F. (West Maitland).—
 Received with thanks.

S.H. (Coledale). — Next
 week's "Review" will contain
 reference to Hughes' visit to
 the South. The "Review"
 prints every Wednesday.

DANDELION (Newcastle).—
 Lack of space compels us to
 hold over "Simple Division."

that is ~~then~~ ¹⁷⁰ waiting in the colliery offices for them? Are they stupid enough to sign this agreement & surrender their rights to combine & strike, if necessary, to obtain justice, & having surrendered it, to humbly appeal to the Wages Board to consider their case!

But even this ark of refuge will be swept away by the flood of capitalistic power if the workers surrender; for if there are no unions except those of employers, there will be no wages boards. In the entire absence of unions there will be no representatives to sit on the boards; & there will be no one outside the ranks of the Socialists ready & willing to suffer imprisonment & death for the pleasure of fighting the workers' battle. Non-socialist leaders are always ready to compromise with the foe, & to take the mouldy half-loaf now, & the other half in 200 years' time. Pure-and-simple non-socialist "leaders" are always ready to arbitrate, & temporise, & tell the workers that "the time is not ripe to demand anything more than a living wage." Therein they lie! The time is always ripe to demand the full measure the full measure of justice that has been denied through the centuries, though it is true that a bare demand which is not made by the workers collectively is not likely to be effective. We should demand & organise, organise & demand, until at last we are successful through industrial & political organisation & action.

Meanwhile, let every unionist paste the above extract in his head, & remember that the main question is not that of defence against invaders, as Watkins said it is, but against the invaders who are here already. No man who is a man will voluntarily submit to the political, clerical, & industrial parasites who intend to destroy unionism in Australia."

The following verses by "Dandelion" were printed in the "International Socialist Review" of Feb. 12, 1910.

DANDELION BITTERS.

"Fling out the flag, let it flap & rise
On the breath of the eager air."-- Francis Adams.

We have flung the flag; see! it flaunts & waves
In the light of the Southern Cross;
'Neath the gaudy rag are a million slaves
'Neath the heel of our Owner's Boss!

For a hundred years we have wiped the sweat
From our faces, in field & mine;
And of blood & tears we shall wipe them yet
If our forces we don't combine.

Shall we fear our foes; & remain content

To be hewers of wood and stone ?
 Shall we toil for those till our lives are spent,
 Or produce for ourselves alone ?

Shall we listen yet to the cry of "creed"
 Or of "color", or "flag", or "race" ?
 Shall we bleed and sweat to supply the need
 Of the authors of our disgrace ?

Shall we cultivate, in these Austral States,
 At the Labor mis-leader's call,
 An insensate hatred of "foreign " mates
 When together we stand or fall ?

Shall we shoot or hang ev'ry man that's black,
 Or affront every man that's brown
 To appease the Gang on our bended back
 Who divide us to keep us down ?

Let's respect each man, be he black or tan,
 And discard stupid racial pride;
 Let's adopt the plan to despise & ban
 Only those who are black inside !

Must the workers live in the depths of Hell ?
 Shall we never attempt to rise ?
 Should we want & give to the drones who dwell
 On the mountains of Paradise ?

Let us join our hands round the whole wide earth,
 And unite with a noble aim--
 Let us bravely stand with all men of worth
 And this fact to the world proclaim:-

That we mean to fight in our solid might
 (Not with bombs, but with active brains),
 For the reign of Right, and for Justice, bright,
 And for freedom from wage-slaves chains!

To the drones and kings-- & all useless things--
 We shall offer the pick or pen;
 And no man will sing "God preserve the king",
 But "God save all our fellow-men."

And we mean to keep what we make & reap
 From the Line to the Polar Skies;
 And the word shall leap o'r the rolling deep
 That the World is our Final Prize ! "

172
~~and operation of conducting a strike, certain conditions are~~
~~absolutely essential to ensure success~~

172.

From the "International Socialist Review" of Feb. 12, 1910.

THE STING OF DEATH. By "Dandelion".

Some clippings from an article.

"O Grave, where is thy victory ?

O Death, where is thy sting ?"

This is not a holiness paper, nor is it an article on religion; so, dear reader, you may safely read on.

But the words at the head hereof came uppermost in my mind in thinking of the fate of the union officials who are in jail because they told somebody that he ought to do something somewhere at some time; & this may be regarded as absolute proof that they are "persons of evil minds," some of them are likely to have a second dose of the Wade--McGowen Strike Cure.

The sting of jail lies in its disgrace-- in the fact that the prisoner deserves jail; but to those who do not deserve imprisonment, but, on the contrary, go to Jail through fighting to uphold the principles of humanity & liberty for the benefit of their children and ours, there is no sting in imprisonment. There is no disgrace in being imprisoned for a good Cause. If our fellows come forth from the prison gates only to learn that their self-sacrifice has been all in vain; that their successors have been weak enough to countenance the conventional lie that arbitration between MASTER & man is all that is required to secure justice for the man; & that not the men themselves, but some lawyer-person has the power to say how long they shall work, what wages they shall get, & what conditions they shall labor under; that the workers have failed because of treachery and weakness & absolute idiocy-- that would constitute the smarting, rankling sting of jail to those honest men who are there now, & those other honest men who may be there before the employers see fit to let the trouble end.

We are born with certain inalienable rights; amongst them being the right to life, liberty, & the pursuit of happiness; & if, in the pursuit of that fleeting rainbow, we desire to cease producing & distributing wealth, who but ourselves should say us nay ? The right to cease work must be preserved inviolate, and every candidate in the forthcoming elections not willing to give legal recognition to that right must be voted down.

Mr. Wm. Brennan is seriously ill as a result of the treatment he is being subjected to; others of the law's victims may be ill before they see the dandelions & wattles again in this land

173.
of "glorious liberty"; but even illness & the dull monotony of prison life would be as nothing compared with the scorpion sting of betrayal at the hands of those for whom they have suffered.

Must we give up our right to stop walking when our boot pinches
A law in that direction would be just as sensible as Mr. Wade's
Coercion Act .

Surely all the honor, & all the courage, & all the determination
did not go to Jail when the four officials went.

Let us honor those jailed men by proving that the wall of Aus-
tralian Unionism is not like the great wall of China-- all
good bricks outside & at the top, but only mud inside. Let us
show them that we are like the walls of Sparta, every man a
brick.

Judge Scolds has hypnotised some by his declaration that the
Wade ges Board will go on, & that he will force chairmen and
secretaries of Lodges to appear. Well, well, well ?

In the North the miners say they are not yet beaten; only "ch-
itter" is being shipped; the butcher & the baker still call, no
one has starved to death, there are no scabs except those we
have become Hughised to, Winter is a good way off-- and polling
day is near.

In the absence of a Socialist candidate for every constituency
in N.S.W. we cannot do much politically, but the working men &
women can shift Wade & his gang, & set Jim McGowen up in bus-
iness as a funeral director-- he istoo slow for anything else,
& they can give themselves the credit of returning Harry Hol-
land and other Socialists to parliament.

Yes, we can make our jailed officials feel that they have not
suffered in vain, by simply being sensible & preserving our in-
dustrial solidarity, and we can make them feel proud of being at
the head of men who have not hesitated to suffer as much out-
side of the prison walls as their champions do within them."

HOW MANY BEANS MAKE FIVE ? By "Dandelion" in the
"International Socialist Review " of Jan. 15, 1910.

This is the question that the boy in the fable was asked to
answer, & to which he replied, "Two in each hand & one in the
mouth !" If he had been asked how many men are equal to five,
he would, had he been cute enough, have replied, Well, that
depends entirely upon the state of their minds, and their con-
sequent relation to one another. If ten men are divided into

two parties of five each, & both are at war against each other, the party that had enough sense to act in unity would be equal to 20 acting disunitedly. Unity is strength, disunity is weakness. Four men in one union plus one man to put their wills into effect, make five; & these five are far more than equal to the power of the same or another 5 of whom each acts on his own account & independently of the others.

This principle in working-class arithmetic applies as well to thousands as to fives or single units; and the truth of it becomes plain when a small, armed, drilled body of soldiers acts in unity against a very large body of men acting without a recognised head, & with no common aim. This truth is so well known that at first sight it might seem needless to mention it, but it is a first principle which seems at the present juncture to be forgotten by the workers of the West. The battle of Laborers versus Capitalists in which they were, & even now are, engaged has not been won. This battle will not be won by the efforts of one regiment of the Army of Labor, but will finally be won by the united army, fighting industrially at the one time, all over the earth.

Combination begets increased power. This is true, not only in economics, but even in chemistry. Take a pinch of sulphur, a little charcoal, and a bit of nitre, and mix them well together & keep on mixing and blending them for a year, and what is the result? Nothing, except that you have a grain of powder. The three ingredients are simply a mechanical mixture, with no more power than they had when separate. But now apply an electric spark, and presto! the dead, weak, inert mass becomes imbued with sudden and surprising power. Where did that power come from? Not from the spark-- that was simply insignificant, but from the powder itself. The spark has simply caused the dead, weak substances to COMBINE (whereas they were previously only mixed) and thus brought out the power which had been latent, hidden, in them all the time, but which could not make itself evident until that union had been effected.

In like manner every worker has within himself & herself a latent power to become the owner & enjoyer of life, liberty, & happiness in the fullest possible measure, but that stored-up power can never be used whilst they are isolated and uncombined. When the vital, electric spark of class-consciousness enters into the minds of the workers they will COMBINE in one union having one aim, one method, & will act at one & the same time to get what they desire, and when combined in one vast organisation their latent power will become manifest, & will be used to break down all opposition & render the producing class the owning class as well.

"Yes, but all this is visionary & utopian," some one may say. "Human nature is too selfish, & men and women are too ignorant to combine, & by their combination bring out and use their latent power." The answer to this lies right under our eyes

and all around us. Bad as things are for the toiling class, they would be far worse if they did not even now combine in various ways to make life endurable under Capitalism. Look at the friendly societies, such as the Gardeners, Foresters, Druids, Oddfellows, Freemasons, and other sodalities that exist for the express purpose of making life possible & endurable under the present insane social system.

Man is a gregarious animal, & runs in flocks like sheep or goats. People DO combine now, but they do not combine with the object of ending at once and for ever the stupid social chaos which renders all societies necessary. The workers are ignorant, it is true, but that is a mental defect that is fast being cured by Socialist agitators and propagandists.

Every year there are more workers in the ranks of the Socialists than in the previous year. Socialist societies are springing up everywhere-- even in Japan-- and their papers are becoming more numerous & influential every year. Human nature is not something that is unchangeable. It changes continuously because its environment alters continuously, & human nature is modified by the conditions that surround it. And as for human nature being selfish, the history of Labor proves that the workers in all ages have been very generous. Who keep the widows, the orphans, the destitute? Why the workers.

Who maintain the world's gentlemen & fine ladies in luxurious idleness? The workers do. Who provide palaces and parks & spacious grounds for the favored few? The generous toilers every time. And who are they that live in badly built, badly ventilated, badly drained houses while the fortunate few enjoy superb mansions on the hill-tops? Why, none but the unselfish palace builders! Who crowd together, 15 in one small room, or live in highly-rented damp, dingy cellars, and sacrifice themselves and their rickety children to enable noble lords & ladies to live in grandeur, in castles & palatial country seats? None but the unselfish workers.

No, the workers are not selfish; they are too generous, too charitable, too self-denying. They produce all the things of use & beauty that are in the world to-day, & are satisfied, are supremely happy if they can get enough of the product of their own labor to feed & clothe themselves & children.

The fact is we are not selfish! We are too modest in our demands. For instance, take the miners of the Newcastle district. When they work they are paid 4/2 for getting a ton of large coal, which is sold for 11/- per ton. They are paid one 8th of a penny per ton for the small coal that is inadvertently filled with the big coal, & this small coal is sold for 6/6 per ton. Now, if 4/2 per ton is a fair price for getting a ton of "round" coal at 11/-, & if small coal was sold at only 5/6 per ton (which is half the value of large coal) then the miners should demand 2/1 per ton for getting small coal. Instead of

2/1 however, the charitable miners are only asking to be paid 1/- per ton for small coal ! And yet we are told that human nature is too selfish !

It is time that this bald-headed old falsehood was consigned to the limbo of exploded lies. Human nature is not too selfish to permit the workers to combine together & use their invincible might to wrest from the idle, or mischievously active few, the means of life. Neither is the intelligent worker too stupid to understand his or her true position in society as a wage-slave when the facts are clearly and boldly stated. The workers are combining now, & the process will go on with ever increasing speed & over ever widening areas in the near future. Even now 150 thousand miners are united in a strike for the Eight Hour from bank to bank principle in England. When they become less generous to the idle, plundering parasites who own the mines the miners will demand a working day of four hours from bank to bank. Meanwhile their strike will help us, & if the Indian & Japanese miners together with those nearer home would only do the same, success would be swift & sure.

And meanwhile the Socialist stands with his eager hand on the switch trying to flash the spark of class-consciousness into the minds of his toiling fellow-slaves, and says, "We touch the button, you do the rest !"

"Dandelion's verse-- "The Old Game Ain't What It Hughessed To Be --" made a great hit in the South. The kiddies recite it by the seaside now, & Billy Hughes dreams of it in the after-dark hours what time the ghost of his late lamented old roany poly cow sits on his chest like an awful nightmare."-- "The International Socialist Review " of Jan. 15, 1910.

THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN. By "Dandelion".

When Mr. John Patterson was asked if he had anything to say in reply to the accusation of Mr. Bowling that he had, by taking a position on the (Arbitration) Board betrayed the trust reposed in him, Mr. Patterson said he did not wish to say anything at present, & he would have to bear, for a time, the frowns & grey faces of the men whom he was doing his best to benefit. He considered it would be unwise to say anything at present; but when the present trouble was over he would have something to say that would be a revelation. -- "Newcastle Herald"

177.
INDEX.

Adelaide 1A. Application form 7.8. Anthony 12. Ada Bain 29.
Alf Brokenshire 24. Albert Hodges 24. Alf. Walker 26. Allen 12.
Addresses 22.27. "An Appeal To The Young" 83. Air shaft 83.91.
Alfred Johns 28. Alf Brokenshire 20. Ada Bain 20. Albury jail
141. 2Adelaide Chronicle" 23. "Age Of Reason 17. Alford 18.
" A Criticism Of "Progress and Poverty" 84. Brother Bob 15.19.81.
38.39.77.2A. 9.4. Boulder City 103. Britons Never Shall Be Slaves
169. Emily Brickman 3. Bert Cocking 9. Bobby's grave 9. John
Botheras 10. E.J. Brady 152. Bobby 25.27.15.16.
Andy Anderson 32. "An Appeal To Reason " 42. Arnott 42.41. Abbot
61. Accident 62. Adey 62. Alice O'Grady 65. Abell 17.78. 7.
Accident 110. Arbitration 120. Apparitions 130. Amelia Rowe 141.

Bert Cocking 86. Breckenridge 86. Birthday 86. Buckley, Dr., 87.
Bean, Dr 87. Boer war ended 88. Barr's daughter 88. Batty, A, 88.
90. Ballarat 104. Britten 104.110. Book-case 89. Building 90.
Bert's measles 92. Batho, T, Burns 139. Building 32.35. Burden 32.
Burnett 35. Bobby 38. Boils 40. Brown C, 38 38.42. Boase, J, 42.
Boulder 42. Boer shell 43. Broad 57. Bingo 57. Bobby 60. 74.
Buttery 62. Books read 75. Blizzard 65. Bob 80. Bunbury 60.
Burns 62. Batchelor 67. Barrington 74. Bower, J, Building 24.
Buckley, Dr, 80.87. Brickman, H, 16. "Birds Of The Globe" 17.
Bobby 27. Burden 19. Bodenham, W, 83. Burden 28. Banking 28.
Broadfoot, D, 81. Barrington 81. Booth, Com., 18. Bowling 81.75.
Bodenham 81. Bower, T, 81. Birth of Jose, 20. Barrington 74.
Bower, J, 75. Bobby 20. Brother Jack 20. Broken Hill 20. Build-
ing 23. 84. 85. Breckenridge 84. Blatchford, R, B. Hill 45.
Benham, Mrs, 49. Bavin 78. Bower 75. Bodenham 76. Bennetts 23.

Coronation of Ned, 88. Conference 108. Class-consciousness 114.
Cobden & Bright 140. "Capital" 89. Catherine Hill Bay 94. Con-
ference 95. Crockett 124. Cook, A, 141. California 122.
Cocking, G, 86. Clements tonic 2 A. Collinson 2A. Cavanagh 3A.
Cecil 9. Cobar 24. "Christendom Astray" 18. Cornwall mine 18.
Curley 69. Catches 69. Charley 90. Cecil 81. Charley 75. Cecil 84.
Conn 85. Cocking, B, 75. Cue 61. Clift 65. Co-operative colliery
75. Colville 62. Charley 76. Clough, D, 76. "Ceasar's Column" 76.
Cook, A, 75. Cavanagh 26.

Death of Mrs. Peel 60. Day Dawn 61. Davies & Cannington 76.
Davidso, P, 77. de Largie 38. Day, A.R., 39. Davies, J, 41. Dunn 42.
Downer 67. Downie's Lane 82. Deputation 109. Death of Eddie
Holland 98. "Dandelion Bitters" 170. Dan de Leon 155. Devon 3A.
Dunstan 3. A. Datson 3A. Dodds 13. "Dandelion" 156. Daddow 3A.
Dalby, G, 4.11. Devon 10. Durea 13. Democratic Club 15. Dunn 15.
Duncan's shaft 17. Devon jiggers 18. Duncanson, D, 90. Death of
Mr. Gibson 91. de Largie 10.

Entry to new house 85. Elder's shaft 17. Ethel Cocking 15.17.
Engine-driving 49. Elernore Vale 77. Ethel 2A. Elder's shaft
3A. Emily Brickman 11. Ellen Mowbray 11. Esperanto 156.
Essentials Of Success 159. "Everybody's Guide To Carpentry" 86
Edden, Alf, 86. "Eastern Manners & Customs" 89. "Everybody's
Guide To Photography" 89. Ellingworth 94. Easterbrook, R, 104
Fighting Platform 58. Fremantle 60. Ferguson, M, 76. Fred 155.
Fred Baker 18. Falmouth 68. Frith 20. Fretwell 55. Fegan 53.
Funnell 55. Federal Row 35. Fred Baker 38. Fretwell 77.79.
Green's Plains 20. Gawler 23. Gillespie 84. "Great Problems
Of Great Towns" 84. Garland 18. Gillespie 83. Gibson, Eva. 75.76
Gladstone 64. Gibson, Alice, 76. 77. Gregor MacGregor 35.
Gleneig 49. Glegnorn 85. Garden Gershom 4A. Grose 2. 10.
Giles 3. 150. Golding Greg MacGregor 44. "Good Health" 82.
Giles, C, 35. Geraldton 60. Gunn 77. Greta 74. Gay, J, 96.
Griffiths 23. Grose 3.

Haslam 17. Holman 69. H. Holland 20. Holder 23. Harrison 28.
Henderson's school 28. Homes' shaft 30. Hughes' shaft, 30.
Hancock 1A. 12. Haslam 9. Holland 15. 149. 151. Hughes 147. 164.
Hawkins 150. How Many Beans 161.173. Hens 110. Hetherington 91.
Hughes, J, 91. Hill, J, 77. Hancock 35.1. 5. Holland 53.64.
Horne 76. Hunter river 81.

Interview 63. Iles, J, 27.
Iron tank 35. Incubator bought 111. "In His Steps" 11.

Jim Henry 181. Jinny 19. 1A. 9. 25. 31. 77. 88. Jose's operation 87.
Jolly, R, 133. Jose 90. 91. 60. 31. 40. 42. 82. 28. 23. 29. 25. 27.
Jingler 152. Jennings 3A. Jack 9. 24. 75. Jack Jones 52.
Johnson, G, 78. Jarrahdale 60. Jack Fahey 60. Jenkin Reece 82.
James, Dr, 36. ~~Ready, J, 29.~~ Jinny 23. Johns, E, 20. Jim Bennetts 2
Johnson 90. Jail 151. Jemima Matthews, 153.

Kadina 64. 39. 1A. 31. 18. Kingston 29. Kurilla. 3A. Kingston 31. 15.

(Letter from W. Trezise 73. 99. 104. 105. Let. from Aunt Grace 86.
To Kingston 28. From K. Reed 69. From de Largie 1. From Mother
29. To R. Seddon 29. From K. Reed 71. 72. 73. Lily Mutton 20. 23.
Lithgow 15. Let fm Thoday 133. From Aunt Grace 144. To J. Rowe
126. From J. Welsh 128. From T. Johnston 129. From aunt Grace 131
From K. Reed 116. From J. Pittman 116. From E. Beuttner 122. From
aunt Grace 125. From Holman 102. From Hillman 104. 101. 103. To
K. Reed 107. From Matthews 111. From Holland 98. From Pittman
95. From Aunt Grace 99. From J. Rowe 100. From E. Beuttner 101.
From Trezise 99. 10. 105. From P. O'Grady 110. 135. From H. Holland
141. 145. From T. Johnston 142. From uncle R. Rowe 124. From T.
Walsh 131. From P. O'Grady 133. To P. O'Grady 92. 146. To Hillman
92. From Hillman 104. To Automatic Knitters 93. From same 96.

Dr. Rice 110. Legacies of parsons 128. To de Largie 86.
Lance Allison 116. Let from Mother 24. Tosame 24. Leg hurt 27.
Lipson Hancock 30. From P. O'Grady 154. To Holland 146. From P.
O'Grady 146. From R. Rowe 148. From T. Johnston 149. To Mother 12
2A. 2. From Sister 3x 5. From Holland 151. From E. Matthews 152.
Logyard 31. Let from Premier 33. Lett to Mother 34. 35. 36. L to
Rigby 3x 35. L re rail-joint 35. From ry commissioner 39.
MMcGregor 146. Moore 146. Mother 1A. Mitchell 1A. Melbourne 1A.
May 5. Mitchell 9. Matthews W, 9. 154. 153. 154. Mary Jones 26.
Money lost 26. May 27. Moroney 88. 110. Measles 88. Mother 90.
Matthews 91. Mother's testimonial 119. Merrie England 86. Math-
ews 86. Money lent 86. McLauchlin 87. Morriss 88. Minmi 100.
Matthews 104. Mont de Piete 111. Mann 139. Martin 134. Moroney 31
Moonta mines 32. Melbourne 43. Money sent 44. Mantie 70. Mad-
dison 82. Milly & Willie Matthews 45. 47. Mrs. de Largie 60.
Mannefield 77. Marshall 78. Mother 80. Moroney 57. McIlroy 51. 60
"Mental Therapeutics" 53. Menzies 60. Murchison 61. Mt. Magnet 61.
Maddison 75. "Man & Woman" 75. Money 75. Miners 58. Martin 10.
Maria Brickman 11. Morgan 81. Moran 81. Millar 82. May's foundry
11. Mrs. Matthews 28. Money lent 83. Mother 31. 80. Mrs. Drysdale
27. Mrs. Rushforth 28. Mrs. Robertson 28. Mrs. de Largie 28.
Martin 10. Mother's testimonial 21. Mrs. Tyler 23. Martin, J, 20.
Mrs. Bain 27. Martin 31. Mrs. Mills 23. Moore 20. McNeil 84.
Maddison 80. Murray, Doll, 6. Matthews 153. Moroney 18.

Ned Broad 30. Northey 27. Nicholls 3. 11. Nelly Giles 12.
"North To West" 167. Nash 38. New York People 81. Nicholls
New house 17. Nicholls 20. 90. Nomination paper 59. Nicholls 80.
179. Nash 82. Newton, Dr., 90. "Notable Shipwrecks" 38. Nash 87.

"Obed To Kitchener" 153. O'Grady, K, 146. Oates Thomas 30. Office
shaft 19. O'Grady 81. Osborn 91. 87. O'Grady 35. 43. 32. 23.

Pays 19. Page 50. Phillips 29. Pitchford 73. Perkyns 68.
Pond 90. Pitchford 81. Pillars 81. Phillips 18. Pettigrew 83.
Pope 68. Paul Anderson 32. Pannel 35. Page 35. Plague 41.
Plain Dealer 42. Pearl Pettigrew 37. 43. Price 44. Perkyns 47.
Price 67. Pitchford 76. People's Fellowship 53. Perth 61.
"Politics For The People" 62. Port Pirie 64. Pension 150.
Photos 150. Paskeville 154. Pettigrew 65. 9. Pengelly
Plain Dealer 13. Phil Heffner 14. Phillips 27. Photos 141.
Political Economy 89. Parker 89. "Plutocracy Or Nationalism,
Which?" 89. Paget 110. Pitchford 90. Pearce 94. Palings 96.
Pittman 95. Page 100. Perry 100.

Queensland Worker" 145. Questions 65.
Roy 2A. Rigby 36. Return from Kadina 43. Robinson 9. 76. Rees 77.
Relations 70. Robinson 77. 52. Reed 35. 56. Ross 90. Rogers 81.

INDEX.

Reid 51. Roberts 55. Robertson 61. Rees 75. Robinson 75.
76. 81. 86. Rundle's gang 100. Reed 96. Reduction 111.
R. Rowe 122. Renfrew 85. Roofing house 29. Rail joint 29.
Rafters 29. Rees, Ben, 25. Rees, Dan, 82. Reed 18. 69.
Rail-joint 28. Rose, E, 14. Rowe, R, 68. Rees 90. Ross 83.

Rice 136.

Sister 24. South Africa 30. Skinner 3A. Stevens 3A.
Sister 4. 12. Smurthwaite 83. Site of house 83. St. Day 68.
Safety-catches 69. Spargo 81. Slabs 83. Seddon 29.
Stapleton 75. Shaft-set 35. Selina Murphey 35. Sydney 39.
Smith, Joe, 79. Speer's Point 82. Spargo 82. Symon 64. 65.
Safety-catch 65. 98. Stanley Reed 56. Sam Cross 60.
Sarah Parsons 60. Smurthwaite's baby 86. Sister 82. 86.
Safety-catches 86. Sewing machine 87. Smurthwaite's trial
88. 94. Square 89. "Socialism In French Municipalities" 89.
Safety-catches 115. 118. Socialist League 110. S. Catch
95. 97. Squires 140. Smith, Dolly, Seeking work 94.
Spiritualism 96. Splitting palings 96. San Jose 124.
Stevens 3A. Simple Division 162.

Trezise 24. 25. 27. 30. 2A. 10. 14. 88. 104. 15. 17. 18. 30. 32.
Thoday 31. 45. Toothache 35. Tank 38. Tickets 39. Toll 110.
The Plain Dealer 88. "The Skin In Health & Disease" 89.
Truss 111. "The Evolution Of The Class Struggle" 89.
"The Man Under The Machine" 89. Taylor 91. ~~Telegraphy~~
Telepathy 143. "The Throne Of David" 86. "The Life Of
Saint Paul 87. "The Facts About The Transvaal" 87. Thoday
14. "The Dogs & The Fleas" 17. Tank 83. "The Land Question"
83. Troy 80. 81. "Trades Unionism New & Old" 81. "The Boer
War & The Money Question" 74. Tyldesley 81. Timmins 81.
Tretthewey 19. Tippet 17. Trembath 17. Thompson 18. 80.
Tyldesley Trezise 19. 26. "The Collectivist" 149. "The
Soliloquy Of J. McGowen 151. "The Old Game Aint What It
Hughesed To Be" 157. Tamblyn 2. Taylor's stope 20.
Thomas Cocking 70. Toomey 75. Traynor 84. Thoday 17. 18. 14.
"Trades Unionism Old & New" 77. Troy 78. Tank lid 79.
Tyldesley 52. Thomas 75. "The Fabian Essays" 76. Trezise
52. Telegram 43. Tonic 42. Tamblyn 2A. Toy 3A. Telegram 1.
"Tregellas' Cornish Tales" 14. 29. "The Old Game" 157. 145.
147. "The Revelation Of St. John" 161. The Sting Of Death
172. "The Gospel Of The Poor" 62. "The People" 27.

Uncle W. Rowe 47.

Verses 158. Page 12 of I. S. Review. 165. 167. 170.

Weekly Herald 20. What Is Our Goal ? 22. Wright 75.

Woodward 20. Wandilta 18. Wallaroo Mines 17. West 86.
 Winter 134. Watkins "Women & The Social Problem" 89.
 Walth & Want" 110. W. Wilson Want, J, 147. Wade 164.
 Wallaroo 4. Wallsend 14. Walker 29. Watkins 147.
 Wallaroo 25. Wood 32. "What Socialism Means" 76.
 Walker 38. "Water-Weeds & Sunbeams" 82. Wells 82.
 Warner's Safe Cure 53.

Yacka 24. Young 81. Yarrington 86. Young 32.

Zinc 89.

IN MEMORIAM

MATTHEWS.—In loving memory of our dear mother, who died at Wallaroo Mines, November 9, 1906. Gone from our home, how sadly miss you, Dear loving mother, thy memory we will keep, Never till death ends shall we ever forget you. Dear to our hearts is the place where you sleep, 'Tis sinful we know, to wish you were here, But life is lonely without one so dear, A mother so loving, so faithful and kind, Never in this world will your spot shall find. —Inserted by her loving daughter Emily.

COLLIERY EMPLOYEES.

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

January 24th 1906.

Mr. Peter Bowling, the newly-elected president of the Colliery Employees' Federation of the Northern District, is a native of Stirlingshire, Scotland, and is 41 years of age. When interviewed by a representative of the "Newcastle Morning Herald" as to his first identification with unionism, he said that he had been reared from infancy in Dunfermline, Fifeshire, where, to be a trades-unionist was as natural as to breathe. Mr. Bowling started to work in coalmines at the early age of 12 years. When 19 years old he came to Australia. Twelve years ago he was elected delegate for the Back Creek Miners' Lodge in Minmi, and since that time he has filled different positions in a number of lodges in the district. Two years ago he was returned at the top of the poll for the position of district treasurer of the Colliery Employees' Federation, in place of Mr. M. Charlton, who resigned when elected to the Legislative Assembly. Now he has been elected as president of the federation. Mr. Bowling has given much thought to social and economic problems, and the articles written by him upon the subject of "Arbitration," and which appeared in the columns of the "Newcastle M. Herald" last March, were widely read. And while some people did not agree with all of Mr. Bowling's arguments, they could not but admit that he had given much thought to the subject, and that the articles were well written. He has also been prominently identified with outdoor sports, being one of three who formed the British Football Association, and having been elected as

Fri. Aug. 25. 1939.



General Carpenter, new leader of the Salvation Army.

S. ARMY'S NEW GENERAL

Proud To Be Australian

Australian Associated Press

LONDON, Thursday.

"I am very proud to be the first Australian to attain this honor," said Commissioner George L. Carpenter, who to-day was elected general of the Salvation Army, in succession to General Evangelina Booth.

There were five

I wish you
a Bright and
Happy New Year

A simple thing I find to do
A good wish is for an hour
That never a cloud or a shadow
Shall darken your day of life

From Grace to Elizabeth
with fondest love
Jan. 4th 1910.



WISHED
TRUE

