

AGAINST LYNCHING.

Ida B. Wells and Her Recent Mission in England.

CRUSADE FOR HUMANITY.

Some Gubernatorial Protests and London Editorials.

British Emigrants Warned Away from the South Until Negro Lynching Ceases.

New York Sun: Miss Ida B. Wells, M. A., is the young colored woman of Memphis who has made two lecturing tours in England, endeavoring to arouse a public feeling which would aid her in this country in her crusade against lynching. Some brief cable mentions of her work in England have given an inadequate idea of the extent of that work. Miss Wells returned to this city on Tuesday, and was seen yesterday by a Sun reporter in the office of the Age, a paper devoted to the interests of the colored people. A personal description of her, published in the London Chronicle recently, says:

"She is a very notable product of that mixing of the blood which is proceeding so rapidly in the Southern States of America. She claims relationship with the red Indian, the negro, and the Anglo-Saxon races. In America she is, of course, a 'colored person.' She is under 30 years of age, very vivacious in manner, and decidedly good looking. She is a woman of culture, a clear, effective platform speaker, and a dashing journalist of the American order."

This will answer very well for a description of Miss Wells personally. Even as to her being a "dashing" journalist, the London paper probably found its justification when it learned that she had to give up journalism in the South under a threat of lynching. The prevalent idea in London seems to be that most dashing journalists devote their time equally between journalism of the American order and sprinting to escape the lyncher. To an American, Miss Wells appeared yesterday a good-looking mulatto, dressed with uncommonly good taste. She wore a close-fitting dark maroon suit, which appeared to be of a worsted knitting, if there is such a fabric used in the construction of women's gowns, and had for ornament only a throat pin in the shape of a large gold pen, which was given to her by a society of colored women of this city. Miss Wells has a small but well-shaped head. The infusion of Indian and Anglo-Saxon blood has not altered her features materially from the negro type, and she has small, regular, white teeth, which she shows freely in talking. She is a well-educated woman, and speaks carefully constructed sentences with an accent she may have acquired through her recent association with English women.

Energy and Common Sense.

She talks with great energy, and has unusual practical sense for a professional reformer, as has been demonstrated by the manner in which she has brought commercial as well as moral pressure to bear upon the South in aid of her crusade. This is proved in her successful effort to induce the labor organizations of Leeds and Bradford to pass resolutions to the effect that

videa rational Sunday afternoon entertainment for the lower and middle classes, and I addressed several gatherings of that society. But I spoke to all classes, from the highest to the lowest. Besides the meetings in churches and at social clubs, fashionable ladies sent cards of invitation for my afternoon lectures in their drawing rooms. At one of my Liverpool meetings Sir Edward Russell, editor of the Liverpool Daily Post, presided. The lord mayor of Liverpool had promised to preside at a meeting, but he afterward thought that he had better not, as he would not be justified in appearing to commit the municipality to my cause."

"How did your English audiences receive your lectures?" the reporter asked.

"Well, you know," said Miss Wells, "that the English people are very undemonstrative. At first every thing I said was received in absolute silence, but I saw that their interest was intense. Seeing this, I sometimes forgot how long I was speaking, and there were times when I started to speak a half an hour when I would continue for three quarters of an hour or an hour and I have committed the terrible indiscretion of speaking one and a half hours."

"Did you meet any opposition at your meetings?"

"Not the slightest. What I told about the negro lynchings in the South was at first received with incredulity. It was new to them and they could not believe that human beings were hanged, shot, and burned in broad daylight, the legal authorities sometimes looking on. But when they doubted I showed them photographs of the scenes of lynchings and the newspaper accounts published in the towns where these lynchings had taken place, relating, as one account did, how the lynchers had cut off the fingers and toes of the man they had murdered and carried them about in their pockets. They could not believe that these acts were done; not by savages; not by cannibals, who at least would have had the excuse of providing themselves something to eat, but by people calling themselves Christian, civilized American citizens."

Demoralizing Pictures.

"I happened to have with me there a photograph which had been sent to Judge Tourgee, 'with the compliments of the committee.' On the back of that photograph the committee had written: 'A good specimen of the black Christian hanged by white heathens.' I believe the last part of that is a quotation from one of Judge Tourgee's books. In this photograph are shown some lads of about 8 years old looking up to the mutilated, swinging body of the murdered negro. Sir Edward Russell did not see this photograph at first; he saw an illustration in an English paper, and protested to me and to the English ladies who were with me that such pictures were demoralizing and should not be drawn and published. When I assured him that the picture was an absolute reproduction of a photograph, and proved it by showing him the photograph, he expressed the greatest astonishment."

"After speaking through the provinces, I went to London, where I remained for eight weeks, speaking on an average once every day, and being interviewed at least twice a week in the prominent London newspapers. I was in London during what they call the May meeting, when all the religious and reform societies of Great Britain hold their annual conventions, and I had hearings before many of them."

"What do you consider that you have accomplished by your agitation in England?"

"I have accomplished," answered Miss Wells, confidently, "every object I went there to accomplish. I wanted the moral support of that wise Christian nation when I should demand in this country that the negro shall have a fair trial when charged with crime, and not to be made the scapegoat of a white man's crime or a white woman's falsehood. I bring with me the resolutions of many Christian bodies which should constrain their fellow Christians here to support my cause. Such resolutions have been passed by the Baptist Union calling for such support on the Bap-

TONE MORE HOPEFUL.

Prospect of a Tariff Settlement Improves Business.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW.

Reported Injury to Crops Will Have a Bad Effect.

Attention in Wall Street Divided Between That and Gossip from Washington.

NEW YORK, Aug. 3.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade tomorrow will say: "An important change in the state of business is near at hand. Congress will, in all probability, act on the tariff question one way or the other within a week. If it passes the pending bill, or if it fails, in either case the definite basis for future business will enable many to act who are now waiting. Whether the one course or the other would stimulate the greater increase, it is certain that either would give relief from present paralyzing uncertainties, and cause some increase in business, at least for a time. So much business has been deferred during the last year, and merchandise stocks have been so reduced, that the mere approach of a decision, without certainty what it is to be, has this week encouraged large preparation for increased business. In spite of outgoing gold and sinking treasury reserves, small railroad earnings, some injury to crops, and increased trouble in the coke regions, the tone and the outlook are more hopeful."

"The injury to crops by hot winds and drought, if as great as some report, will affect all interests, but at this season it is never easy to distinguish between local and general damage. Western receipts of wheat were 6,400,354 bushels, against 4,002,696 last year, which does not encourage notions of a short yield, and exports were only 1,599,563 bushels from Atlantic ports, against 3,185,464 last year. Corn exports were only 118,438 bushels, against 1,599,781 last year, and receipts 1,952,543, against 2,582,976, but it seems undeniable that the crop has sustained considerable injury. Cotton declined an eighth, with commercial estimates of a yield exceeding 8,500,000 bales."

"Sales of wool were 8,522,000 pounds, against 8,742,000 last year, and 9,836,400 the year before, and for five weeks ending with July were 30,882,725 pounds, against 14,488,950 last year, and 38,588,750 in 1892. It seems that a large part of the sales this week were to fill orders actually booked, and the rush of belated clothiers and dealers to get goods for the fall trade gives most manufacturers more than they can do for a month or two, though there seems to be no demand whatever for spring goods, and manufacturers are making no effort to get orders. Wool has been advanced for many kinds 1 cent, and the average about 1/4 cent, after the decline of 1 1/2 cents from May 1."

"Recovery in iron manufactures is hindered by greater trouble in the coke region, where many of the new colored hands have quit and gone back to the South, and the strikers have decided to continue the struggle. Somewhat better business appears at Philadelphia, but the market here is dull. There is no improvement in quantities of manufactured forms required at Pittsburgh or the West, and in general the demand for finished products is disappointing. Prices

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proved in her successful effort to induce the labor organizations of Leeds and Bradford to pass resolutions to the effect that they would dissuade their class from emigrating to the Southern States until negro lynching should cease.

But before she told the interesting story of her experience in England the reporter asked her something about her life and how she happened to go to England. When she was 14 years of age, she said, her father and mother died on the same day of yellow fever, leaving to her care some younger children. She earned support by teaching school, meanwhile completing her own education. She lost a situation as teacher through too free criticism of the policy of the school managers, and then devoted her whole time to the conduct of the *Memphis Free Speech*, a paper in which she was already interested as part owner and editor. In May, 1892, Miss Wells came to this city on business, and on the day of her arrival read in the press dispatches that the *Free Speech* had been suppressed. The suppression, she explained to the reporter, came about in this manner:

A paragraph appeared in her paper criticizing the policy and conduct of some white teachers, whereupon the *Memphis Daily Commercial* said that the person who wrote that paragraph should be lynched. An afternoon paper said that if the colored people did not lynch the writer the white people should take him, tie him to a stake, and brand him on the forehead for his "boathouse calumnies on white women."

Action in Memphis.

Thereupon a meeting of Memphis merchants was held in the Cotton Exchange Building and a committee from the meeting drove her business manager out of town and left word that he would re-establish the paper under pain of death. That determined her to remain in New York, and she went to work on *The Age*. In September of that year an English woman, Miss Intey, of Somersetshire, then in New York, called on Miss Wells and had a consultation with her in relation to the condition of the colored people in this country.

"Miss Intey expressed her sympathy with me and my people," said Miss Wells, "and went home and I never expected to hear from her again. In October the colored women of this city, hearing that I had lost all my property in my efforts in behalf of our people, gave a testimonial to me in Lyric Hall, and on that night I made my first public speech, when I told of the lynching of three of my friends and the suppression of my paper. I continued my work on *The Age* here until March, 1893, when I received a letter from Miss Intey. She wrote shortly after the news of the burning alive of the colored man in Paris, Texas, had reached England. She assured me that the English people would take hold and assist me in my crusade against lynching, if they only knew the facts. Before I received that letter I had been in Boston and Philadelphia and other large cities endeavoring to obtain a hearing by Christian people, but I failed, and so I determined to accept the invitation she included in her letter, and five days later I sailed. My first visit was a short one. I was met by Miss Intey and a Mrs. Mayor, one of whom always accompanied me, and those ladies paid all the expenses of my tour.

In Scotland.

"I began in Scotland, speaking in all the large towns, and was well received, but I could not stay long enough in one place on that trip to deepen the impression the lectures made. Then we went to England, where I spoke in Newcastle, Manchester, Liverpool, and other large towns, and finally went to London. In my lectures I told of my own experiences and gave the statistics of lynchings. At future meetings was formed the Society for the Recognition of the Brotherhood of Man."

Miss Wells showed the reporter a periodical called *Fraternity*, which this society publishes. The periodical publishes a list of the society's secretaries, which includes many men and women of prominence in religious and reform movements in England.

"I spoke wherever I could get a hearing," she said, "and addressed large meetings in every church of prominence in Liverpool. They have a society there called the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Society, which pro-

here to support my cause. Such resolutions have been passed by the Baptist Union calling for such support on the Baptists of the United States, and I have similar resolutions passed by the Congregationalists, Unitarians, Quakers, and the great temperance societies of Great Britain. In London there was formed an anti-lynching committee, of which many of the most prominent London editors are members, and they will continue the agitation against lynching. I have also an appeal signed by the leading clergymen of Great Britain of all the denominations addressed to the clergy of America asking that there shall be given to me in this country the same opportunity to agitate this cause here as I had there.

Governor Northen's Protest.

"The real action must be here, of course. While I was in London Governor Northen, of Georgia, wrote to the *London Chronicle* protesting against the publicity given by the London papers to my statements regarding the lynchings in the South and characterizing those statements as falsehoods. The *London Chronicle* replied that its editorials were not based upon my unsupported statement and mentioned clippings from papers of the South bearing out my statements. Three days after Governor Northen's letter was received the cable brought news of a lynching of a negro in Governor Northen's own State, and that the negro was cut down before he was dead and skinned alive."

But Miss Wells did not confine her efforts entirely to bringing a moral pressure to bear. While she was in England there was a convention of Southern Governors to discuss the question why emigration from Great Britain did not go into Southern States. Miss Wells procured an answer to that question which she believes will be of value to her here. Through her efforts several labor organizations of Bradford and Leeds adopted resolutions warning British emigrants away from the Southern States until negro lynching in those States had ceased.

Miss Wells has not decided on the details of her crusade. She will consult with leaders among the colored people in this city before she does that. She brought with her bulky files of English papers containing strong editorials in favor of her agitation and many interviews with her. The *London Chronicle* of April 28 contains a two-column interview, and the *Lancaster Era* contains a two-column report of her discussion, which is very favorable to her. The *London Daily News* of June 15 contains a half-column leader equally as strong and favorable to her cause. The *British Mercury* of April 13 contains a long account of her lecture in that city, over which Rev. G. A. Sowter, vicar of St. Silas, presided, and in this way throughout Great Britain her work was noticed.

The reporter asked her whether she encountered race prejudice anywhere in Great Britain. Miss Wells answered enthusiastically:

"No. It was like being born again in a new condition. Everywhere I was received on a perfect equality with the ladies who did so much for me and my cause. In fact, my color gave me some agreeable prominence which I might not otherwise have had. Fancy my feelings when in London I saw the lady mayoress taking a negro African prince about at a garden party and evidently displaying him as the lion of the occasion. I forgot while there that I had ever lived where I was subjected to the indignity of being obliged to accept inferior hotel and railroad accommodations because I was colored."

"Do you expect to return to Memphis?" the reporter asked.

"Well, not just at present," Miss Wells replied significantly.

Shortest River Season on Record.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Aug. 3.—*Special Telegram*.—The Diamond Jo Line announced the withdrawal of all boats today on account of low water. This is the shortest river season on record.

To rose bud opening to the morn,
While yet the dew hangs on the thorn,
Exhales less sweetness than is wont
To breathe from lips that SOZODONT
Has touched with a soft crimson glow
That shows the dazzling teeth of so.

required at Pittsburg or the West, and in general the demand for finished products is disappointing. Prices remain nearly unchanged, though with numerous small contracts for structural work beams are a shade stronger, while Bessemer iron, bar iron, and wire nails are a shade weaker. The demand crowds all works producing low-priced shoes, while manufacturers of better grades are left dependent upon slender daily orders to keep their shops in operation. Shipments from Boston for the week are 25 per cent larger than last year, and for July 12 per cent, but a decrease compared with 1892 of 11 per cent.

Commercial liabilities thus far reported in failures during July amounted to \$9,016,778 of which \$4,500,220 was of manufacturing and \$4,516,558 of trading concerns. The decrease for the month, though great in comparison with last year, is hardly as much as has been expected. The failures this week have been 219 in the United States, against 436 last year, and forty-four in Canada, against thirty-four last year.

Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: "Wheat exports, United States and Canada, both coasts, six days ending with Aug. 3, amount to 2,977,000 bushels, against 3,388,000 bushels last week as compared with 5,622,000 bushels in the week one year ago, 3,978,000 bushels two years ago, 4,030,000 bushels three years ago, and 2,166,000 bushels four years ago. San Francisco wires that two wheat cargoes have been shipped to the United Kingdom this week after long cessation of such exports."

WEEK IN WALL STREET.

Reports of Damage to Crops Divide Attention with Tariff Talk.

New York, Aug. 3.—*Bradstreet's* financial review tomorrow will say:

Crop news from the West has divided speculative attention with the tariff situation at Washington. As regards the latter, Wall street recognizes that the turning point of the entire question is the sugar schedule, and sugar remaining stock has consequently been very erratic in its movements, which were confined to exceedingly narrow limits. The extreme drought west of the Mississippi has unquestionably damaged the corn crop to a greater or less extent, and the question now is whether the railroads in that section will be able to maintain their dividends.

Interest has been mainly in the granger stocks. Burlington was the center of the bear attacks, falling from 74 to 71½, while Rock Island was depressed from 65½ to 63. The other stocks of the same group showed, however, a fair degree of resistance, indicating that the selling was mainly by bear interests. Sugar has been very irregular within the narrow limits of 105½ and 102; the close of the week exhibiting some strength on the renewed prospects that the Senate sugar schedule would be adopted. The other industrials, inclusive of Chicago Gas and Distillers' have been relatively speaking, neglected, and the market as a whole was narrow.

BUSINESS OF THE BANKS.

Reports from Clearing-Houses Showing Percentages of Increase or Decrease.

New York, Aug. 3.—The following table, compiled by *Bradstreet's*, shows the total clearances at the principal cities and the percentage of increase or decrease, as compared with the corresponding week last year:

	Inc.	Dec.
New York.....	\$397,236,976	35.7
Chicago.....	83,124,241	22.8
Boston.....	67,453,786	20.2
Philadelphia.....	56,623,400	13.3
St. Louis.....	20,491,012	27.3
San Francisco.....	13,322,629	28.9
Baltimore.....	11,407,391	19.5
Pittsburg.....	11,921,610	18.1
Cincinnati.....	11,371,000	21.9
Kansas City.....	8,645,569	28.5
New Orleans.....	5,800,546	4.9
Louisville.....	5,674,685	24.2
Detroit.....	5,350,724	18.3
Omaha.....	4,304,063	1.7
Minneapolis.....	4,223,209	3.6
Buffalo.....	3,948,286	50.6
Cleveland.....	4,567,560	15.7
Providence.....	3,968,500	17.7
Milwaukee.....	3,078,475	48.0
Columbus, Ohio.....	3,067,280	13.0
Indianapolis.....	3,100,188	7.3
St. Paul.....	3,026,380	11.9
Denver.....	2,663,638	119.5
Richmond.....	1,980,080	11.9
Dallas.....	1,943,981	62.5