

the bank money ; yet the bank never seeks to share in the unusual profits. The bank for its money asks only the current rate of interest, regulated by the supply of cash in the market, and the demand for the same. In this case, it is not the capitalist, but the labourer, who receives the sale price, and who has the whole and sole charge of the returns. The bank is not jealous that its money has been employed to advantage ; on the contrary, the bankers know that the better the return, the more does business thrive, and the more demand will there be for the bank money, leading to a higher rate of interest, and to the prosperity of the capitalist. So also with the workmen who labour for the capitalist. They ought to rejoice that the capitalist derives large returns, because those large returns afford them a security that their labour will be employed, and that their wages will be as high as the competition in their particular branch of business will prudently afford. Strikes, then, for a rise of wages are destructive resorts to an extreme and hazardous remedy. Theoretically they are wrong and unnecessary in a free country, where everything is open to free competition ; and practically they have, we believe in almost every case on record, shown themselves to be perfectly useless. They have never done good ; and though we no more deny the right of men to strike than we deny the right of the master to discontinue his business when it no longer pays, yet we are thoroughly assured that they never will do good. They will always do more harm to the workmen who strike than to the masters who are struck against. We would therefore calmly but seriously recommend working men to refrain from strikes, more especially when the object is a rise of wages ; and these cautions we deem the more necessary at the present time, as we greatly regret to perceive that the Dundee shipcarpenters have shown a disposition to engage in the same course that has been carried on so disastrously at Preston.