NOTICE.

We shall be pleased to receive Items of interest pertaining to Trade Societies, from all parts of the Dominion, for publication. Officers of Trades Unions, Secretaries of Leagues, &c., are invited to send us news relating to their organizations, condition of trade, &c.

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All communications should be addressed to the Office, 124 Bay Street.

Our columns are open for the discussion of all questions affecting the working classes.

All communications should be accompanied by the names of the writers, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good

We wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

WILLIAMS, SLEETH & MACMILLAN, 124 BAY STREET.

Meetings of Unions.

TORONTO.

Meetings are held in the Trades' Assembly Hall, King street west, in the following order :-Machinists and Blacksmiths, 1st and 3rd Mon

Painters, 1st and 3rd Monday. Tailors, 2nd and 4th Monday. Crispins, (159), every Tuesday. German Benevolent Society, 1st Tuesday. Amalgamated Carpenters, alternate Wednes'ys. Cigarmakers, 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Iren Moulders, every Thursday. Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday. Bricklayers and Masons, 1st and 3rd Friday. Stone Cutters, 2nd and 4th Friday. Coopers, 2nd and 4th Friday. Printers, 1st Saturday. Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

The Amalgamated Society of Engineers, &c. meets in Foy's Hall, corner of York and Richmond sts., on the 2nd and 4th Friday. The Hackmens' Union meets in the Temper ance Hall, on the 1st Monday.

The Friendly Society of Carpenters and Joiners meets in the Temperance Hall, Temperance street, on the 1st Friday.

K. O. S. C., No. 315, meets in the Temperance Hall every alternate Tuesday.

OTTAWA.

Meetings ore held in the Mechanics' Hall, ing order :-

Free-stone Cutters, 1st and 3rd Tuesday Lime stone Cutters, 1st and 3rd Wednesday. Masons and Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Thursday. Trades' Council, 1st Friday. Printers, 1st Saturday. Tailors, 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Harnessmakers, 4th Monday.

HAMILTON.

Amalgamated Carpenters meets in Club House, James Street, alternate Thursdays. Iron Moulders' Union, No. 26, every Monday, at their hall, Rebecca street. Machinists' and Blacksmiths' Union, every Tuesday evening, at Iron Moulders' Hall.

LONDON.

Amalgamated Carpenters meets in Temperance Hall, Hall, Richmond Street, alternate Tues-

ST. CATHARINES.

Meetings are Held in the Temperance Hall, in the following order:— K. O. S. C., 1st Monday.

Tailors, 2nd Monday. Typographical Union, No. 147, 2nd Tuesday. Coopers, 3rd Tuesday.

Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners, alternate Wednesdays, at Caledonia Hall.

Meeris. Labcefield Brothers, Newsdealers, No. 6 Market square, Hamilton, are agents, for the WORKMAN in that violaity.

Mr. D. W. TERNENT, Niagara Street, St. Catharines, will receive subscriptions and give receipts for the WORKMAN. Parties calling on Mr. Ternant will please state if they wish the paper continued.

Mr. J. A. BRANDON, of Guelph, has kindly consented to solicit subscriptions for the WORKMAN in that town, and is hereby authorized to act as our agout.

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The Ontario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, MAR. 26, 1874

THOROUGHNESS.

"Don't be halt of anything," says a modern writer. Sounder advice nover was, and never could be given in language more concise. The bane of many a man's life is, that he is never more than half of anything. Not unfrequently this is the result of trying to be and to do too many things at once; but oftener of a man not exerting himself sufficiently to be a whole something. Very few men are capable of doing more than one thing well. By that we mean as well as it can be done,-not passably, or fairly, but thoroughly, completely, and as it ought to be done. This is the rule; and while history records exceptions, these only prove the rule.

The injunction to "do nothing by halves," will apply to all classes of men, whether they belong to the learned professions, or are engaged in business, or the mechanical arts. Daniel Webster once said there was always plenty of room for men at the top. There is always a surplus of men, and women too, who are competent to fill the middle and lower positions of society, but a scarcity of those who can take the higher ones. It would seem as though the great want of the world is thoroughness; and the mistake which men too frequently make, when starting in life, is not striving for it. We look out, and see multitudes of men who all their lives suffer themselves to be underlings, and complain that they are such, who might lift themselves out of such positions if they really and carnestly desired to do so. But the difficulty is, they want somebody else to do the lifting for them. How often are we met with the saying, "Why cannot I get along in the world as well as so and so does? Why am I compelled to labor for a bare existence, whilst others, who are no more deserving than I, are accumulating wealth out of my labors and that of others like me?" An answer to these questions may be easily found. In the one case, where perhaps there has been a disposition to "take things easy," in the other, there has been the exertion of brain and muscle, and the consequence is, the one outdistances the other in the race. We see this exemplified in every-day life. Two men start in life at the same time, with equal prospects of success, but in the course of five, ten, or twenty years we find one man in casy circumstances --- "well off" in the world's estimation, —the other plodding along in much the same subordinate position as when he started. What has produced the difference? "Luck," one may say. Not at all. If we look closely into the matter we shall find that head and hands were made to do full duty in the one case; in the other the man was content to labor for others with his hands, and let them do the thinking which he ought to do for himself. Strong hands are useful, but an active brain is necessary to keep the hands at work successfully.

Of course, we do not presume to say there is such a thing as perfect equality. A-writer says : " The Creater has plainly designed that men should differ, accordingly as their tastes, ambitions, quality of mind differs. There must be hewers of wood and drawers of works which human genius suggests for the benefit of the human race.' This is very true, but it does not fol-

taken note of. The employer soon finds out his value; his place cannot be easily filled; he will have permanent employment; and he speedily becomes master of the situation. An illustration of this we find in a recent number of the New York Tribune, when, in speaking of the reduction of wages in the building trade from last year, it says: "No small number of employers, out of pity, take needy hands praying for work when they have little use for them, and can only pay them pitiful wages. But there has been no very heavy reduction of wages with the [tried and skilled men." Note very carefully the closing sentence of this paragraph. But in order to reach this standard it takes brains as well as hands. There must be a steady purpose and determined thought, and when this is done, the end will bring reward and sure success. Let our young mechanics carefully ponder these things, and if they desire to better their condition in life, let them remember the words of Webster we have quoted, "there is plenty of room at the top."

INCOME FRANCHISE.

The bill to provide for the extension of the elective franchise, on the basis of income, has passed the Local House, and is now law. The provisions of the bill, however, have undergone some changes since it was introduced last session-and the changes have been of a restrictive character. When the bill was introduced last week the amount of income necessary to confer the franchise was left blank, but was, after discussion, filled up with the sum of \$400. This, it will be remembered, was the amount originally inserted, but the present bill provides that, in order to vote, the recipient of an income must be assessed for that amount, and as the present law exempts incomes to the extent of \$400, the result is, that the present measure, in place of being, what was anxiously expected it would have been-one which would have been hailed with satisfaction and delight by thousands of operatives and others who were expecting to have been benefitted and enfranchised by the proposed bill-partakes largely of being "a fraud, a delusion, and a snare." There is, indeed, a provision to the effect that any one who chooses may waive the exemption, and allow himself income, so as to bring himself within

those torms. We are told we ought to be thankful for small favors; and notwithstanding that we believe the bill is practically of very little utility so far as an extension of the suffrage is concerned, and cortainly will leave the body of the operative population pretty much as it found them, yet, after all, it must be regarded with a certain amount of satisfaction that the measure has been introduced. That the bill is a move in the right direction will be generally admittedwe believe that before many years, pub lic opinion will force legislation on this subject to a point very far beyond that arrived at by our legislators during the present session.

TORONTO, GREY AND BRUCE RAILWAY.

A very numerously signed requisition has been presented to the City Council, praying that body to submit a water, and there must be master-minds by-law to the qualified voters of this to direct and superintend the great city, for the purpose of raising a bonus of \$100,000 to the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway. The object of this new bonus is the construction of an low that a hever of wood should remain independent line from Weston into this such. By aiming to hew a little bettor city. It has been found that while at than some one else, he may become the the time the arrangement was made "boss" of other hewers. So among with the Grand Trunk Company, to use our mechanics. If a man does superior their line to Weston, was perhaps the labor of his brain as well as the labor Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway over Coopers' Monthly.

of his hands into his work, he is quickly | the track of another Company, and that only a single one, and doing an immerse business of its own, must be apparent to any thinking mind, and hence the necessity presses itself upon the directors of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway, in order to accommodate the largely-increasing freight and passenger traffic of their line, of constructing an independent line to Toronto. That this city has already been vory largely benefitted by this line admits of no question; and we have little hesitation in saying that when the proposed bylaw to grant the bonus is submitted to the property-holders they will see it is to their interest, as well as for the pubic good, that the further aid asked should be granted.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRODUCTS.

Labor reformers and trade unionists tell us that, in determining what portion of the products of industry should go to capital for its use, and what portion to labor for its service, we should first allow capital a just and reasonable rate of interest on the money invested, and that whatever is left is rightly due to labor. We will suppose, for instance, that a capitalist invests fifty thousand dollars in a business requiring many workmen, and that the profits at the end of the year are eight thousand dollars. If we now allow, as a reasonable and just rate of interest, six per cent. to capital for its use, it will be seen that there is left a surplus of five thousand dollars which, being produced by labor, rightly belongs to it. But now comes the capitalist, who says, "I admit I could not receive more than six per cent had I placed my money at interest instead of investing it in business, but had I placed it out at interest, on good security, there would be no risk, while on the other hand, by investing it in business, I ran the risk of losing much of it or of realizing no profit at all, since there are always dangers arising in business from sudden and unexpected fluctuations in market values."

To this the workman might justly

reply that he too ran a risk by going

into his shops or factories, and thus encountering the dangers incident to vast and complicated combinations of machinery, and besides all fluctuations in the market value of the-commodity manufactured rather affected him and not the employer, since he ran the risk to be taxed to the full amount of his of having his wages reduced in consequence of such depression; and furtherthe provisions of the Incomo Franchise more he ran the risk of being thrown measure; but this seems to us to be out of employment altogether, to his merely "multiplying words," and we great detriment; as it is not reasonable are of opinion that but very few will to suppose the employer would continue avail themselves of the privilege under the business if it ceased to pay. But perhaps his strongest argument would be this: "You demand that six per cent. shall be guaranteed you because you can realize that amount on your money by loaning it out on unquestionable security, and besides that, you demand a premium for the risks you incur: but I have shown that my risks are equal at least to yours, and I now desire to direct your attention to the fact that while your capital accumulates and increases by the accretions of interest, my capital or labor is stendily and surely diminishing in value. Age is constantly shriveling and drying it up, and there will come a time when its value will be best represented by a minus sign. You may say that though my vital force is subject to inevitable decay, still I also receive interest on it. The results of my labor, my wages, is really interest accumulations, the principal being my strength or vital power. This I readily admit, but the point I make is that the principal in my case is constantly wearing out by the friction of time, while your principal never changes. It will be worth twice as much twenty years hence as it is now, but my principal at that time may be wiped out of existence, or if in existence, at least not worth half as much as it now commands, and therefore, if you are a reasonable man you must candidly admit that all work, is promptly at his post of duty, best that could have been made then; the substantial advantages are on your and aims to promote the interest of his | yet the difficulties in conducting the | side, while the real risks and preponderemployers, if, in short, he puts the traffic of such an extended line as the ant disadvantages are on my side."-

LABOR SCHOOLS IN PERU.

Peru is making great strides to the light, through the liberal party, of whom the present President, Manuel Prado, is a worthy representative. But there is a powerful influence against him here. The church wields no insignificant arm in battering down whatever liberty attempts-long before its. accomplishment. In the face of its opposition, however, much has been done in the last decade or so, under the immediate protection of the general government, for the public good. Notably among these efforts was the establishment of an institution for the purpose of training the poor boys of Lima to some good trade, while, at the same time, they receive a thorough book education. This institution is known under the names of its two branches-Escuela de Artes and the Escuela de San

The two schools, established and directly protected by the government, for the benefit of boys who else could gain no education save that too easily learned in the streets, seem to indicate a great advancement in the popular ideas of the country's wants. And, much to the credit of Peru be it said, the subject of instruction generally is receiving, at present, a great deal of attention. There are being established all over the land, even in the most distant provinces, good free schools, whose teachers are to be brought from Europe and the United States. Of course, it will require time to put these in operation; but, when they are, and the numerous railways now in course of construction are completed, uniting the coast with the now almost inaccessible interior, Peru will be quite a different country. There will not be so many petty insurrections then as now, for not only will the lower classes be more enlightened and alive to the necessity of peace in order to insure prosperity, but the districts most easily disaffected will be so closely connected with the central government as to cut off all possibility of success in any of their uprisings .- Overland, for February.

The average earnings of each person in the United States have been estimated at \$150 a year, or \$750 for every family of five persons; this makes the sum total of all that is carned by the people; \$150 multiplied by 40,000,000 or \$6,000,000,000. If we test this estimate by the census report of the value of the yearly production, which is nearly \$2,500,000,000 for farm products. and \$4,500,000,000 for manufactures total \$7,000,000,000, we see that the above-montioned estimate of the oarn. ings is rather high, as the profits on the products of labor must be more than one-sixth of the value. If we test the estimate by the price paid for labor, we find also that it is above the real amount. The average carnings of 5,000,000,000 common but able laborers are, according to carefully prepared statistics, \$1,50 per working day, or \$3,50 per year: while in the Southern States, experienced hands in Summer earn \$1,23, without board, or about \$300 per year: while factory operatives earn \$6 per week, or \$1 per day. As now, on an average, only one person in three is able to work. except in factories, where more are employed (two-thirds of the population consisting of children, old or infirm and sick people), it follows that the average earnings of each person are only about \$100 a year, or the total amount \$4,-000,000, which cannot be far from the

THE TRADES ASSEMBLY,

The Trades Assembly will meet on Tuesday evening next, at half past seven o'clock, as the usual meeting night will fall on Good Friday. It is hoped all delegates will bear this notice in mind.

INCOME FRANCHISE.

It had been our intention to publish this week Mr. O'Donoghue's speech on the Income Franchise Bill, but are compelled to leave it till next week.

For first-class Book and Job Printing go to the office of the ONTABLO WORKAN 124 Bay street.