

WOMEN'S PROTECTIVE SOCIETY.

A meeting in sympathy with the objects of the Women's Protective Association was held in the Pavilion, Horticultural Gardens, on Thursday last. Among the speakers was Rev. Father Ryan, of St. Michael's, who delivered the speech of the evening. The *Star* reports the Rev. gentleman's splendid effort as follows

The notice I received to attend this meeting was so short that I did not have time to learn as much about this organization known as The Working Women's Protective Association and the special object of the meeting, as I should have desired. However, I am indeed glad to be here this evening, and I will tell you, my dear friends, that I am here as a representative of Archbishop Walsh of Toronto. I may say I am here representing the Catholic Church and I am here to give a word of encouragement and to give my blessing and the blessing of the Catholic Church to this organization.

It has been said by the chairman that there seems to be a prejudice on the part of the clergy regarding these associations. That may be, my dear friends, but there is no prejudice between the labor organization of the Catholic Church the world over. Pope Leo XIII has come down from his throne and made his voice heard, not from above but below. He has spoken for the ranks of the people and he has spoken for labor and organization. Therefore it is altogether fitting that a soldier of his should appear to give every encouragement to an organization of this kind. I am happy to say this meeting is a proof of it. If there has been a prejudice before on the part of the clergy these organizations and others of its kind have done an educational work, and the great educational work done, amongst others, is to remove that prejudice, and these bodies are not only helping themselves, as my reverend friend has said, but they are helping us to understand ourselves.

I am glad indeed to be united with my other Christian friends on this platform. It is a blessed thing and grateful to be able to say that there are some subjects upon which we can cordially agree. We may differ on Sunday and in regard to church matters, but we can leave our differences at home, but it is a pleasure indeed to have subjects like this, that unite not only people, but those who preach to the people.

Now I take a great interest in this question. I was once a member of a labor organization, the Knights of Labor not altogether excluding my present profession, and a number of us met and thoroughly discussed this labor problem and I was not only pleased but surprised to find how much I had to learn from members of the labor cause. I have read and studied books and principles, but here were men living these books and living these principles and I was pleased to learn from them.

When in Chicago I had a good opportunity to witness the sufferings of some of the daughters of the laboring classes, with a father sick and dying for want of sufficient food, and the daughter working out her soul and heart in the various walks of labor. And I have seen a poor child worn out watching a sick brother and sister at night and having at last to give up her position at which she was earning a poor pittance. I have gone to her employer and asked him to hold her situation open for her until such time as she could go back to work, but he said 'No, it is impossible; the work cannot stop. These workers are like cogs in the wheels of my great machines. Others must be supplied to keep the machinery in motion.' 'What!' I said, 'do you say these workers are but cogs in the wheels of your machinery? Do you not know that they have souls and hearts? Are you an American citizen? Do you not admit this poor child, working for a poor pittance, has the right to live and have a share in the pursuit of happiness? Talk about slavery being abolished in this country!' And the man only smiled at me and said: 'You are only one, you are not organized.'

Seeing this army of industry, these poor children in early morning taking their little baskets and going out into their different walks from the fashionable store down to the making of match boxes, it is there I have learned to know and respect them. I have seen them go into the furnace of fire and into the lion's den, but you know the surroundings these children have to face, and I have seen them respect and reverence themselves, and by so doing make others respect their weakness. Here I have learned to admire them, and, therefore, whenever I get a chance I will stand for the great cause of the poor working women. I do admit and advocate one right for working women, which is the right these organizations proclaim, the right of protection and also the right of being respected. They should be respected and revered by their employer, and because they do not respect the poor child who works for them as if they had no soul and heart, and as if they were not made after the likeness of the great Creator, because they do not respect them they will not protect and pay them.

We are told by Mr. Mill, one of our great political economists, that those who labor

most and abstain most shall have the most. What do we see now? Precisely the reverse; that is, that those who labor least and abstain the least have the most. This should not be, my dear friends, and I say we can each in our own department help to set right this state of affairs.

Mr. Chamberlain, the great statesman, understanding as he does this great question, and knowing the misery of the poor, demands that the toilers and spinners should have a proportionate share in the result of their toil; but now where does the result go? Into the baskets of those who labor not, neither do they spin nor use hand or brain. This state of affairs should not be my dear friends, and those whom they are attacking are not those who are teaching socialism.

One of the important teachings of our great leader when he came down to this earth was that the working men and women should get a just return for their labor, and that the man's return should be sufficient to support him self and family, while the return of the woman should be sufficient to support herself respectably and in comfort. Justice before generosity my friends. We are told the rich are building great palaces for the people, but we would thank them more if they had begun sooner by paying their people, the poor working women. Give them the just reward of their toil and then build palaces, but let them pay their employees their due first.

There was once a very wealthy king who was very vain of his possessions and he gave a great feast in order to display his vast treasure. Among the gathering was a man of God who said to the king, these are not your treasures, these treasures are the blood and brain of your toilers in your fields, on the seas and on your fields. And he spoke to the treasures and they dropped down blood upon the pavement and it seems to me that a great deal of the glitter we now see on the grand dames that move in the walks of the classes, if the voice of God were heard, would drop down drops of blood of the working girl. These things we know exist and we are here to set them right.

Before taking my seat allow me to again say that I am here representing the Catholic church, the church of the people and that church will assist in every way to ameliorate the sufferings of and protect the working women, and that to this movement the Church as well as I adds its blessing.



Coal and Wood Contracts.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Hon. the Commissioner, at this department, will be received until noon on

Tuesday, June 20th, 1893,

for Coal and Wood, to be delivered to the under mentioned institutions, for the term ending July 1, 1893:—

TORONTO	Hard coal, tons of 2,000 pounds	Soft wood cords of 128 cubic feet	Hard wood, cords of 128 cubic feet	Soft coal, tons of 2,000 pounds
Government house, about.....	180	30	8	7
Old Parliament buildings, such kinds as may be required and in such quantities as may from time to time be ordered to be delivered.				
New Parliament buildings, Queen's Park; hard coal screenings; soft coal screenings; pea coal, or furnace hard coal, with the option of taking delivery of as much of any or either of these kinds from time to time as may be required, up to a total in all of from 1,200 to 1,600 tons.	\$22	40	20	20
School of Practical Science, 12 barrels of soft wood charcoal and.....	250	4	1	
Osborne Hall, about.....	450	60	30	10
OTTAWA.				
Normal School, about.....	300	2	55	35

The coal and wood must be delivered and stowed away in bins or other receptacles at the respective institutions in quality and manner satisfactory to the persons in charge, and at any time until the 15th October next, except that for the Government House, Osborne Hall and the Education Department, one-half the furnace coal is not to be delivered until after the 31st December next, and for the old and the new Parliament buildings it must be delivered from time to time in such quantities as may be required during the term ending July 1st, 1894. Coal for the Government House, old Parliament Buildings, School of Practical Science, Education Department and Osborne Hall must be weighed at such scales as shall be approved; and coal for the new Parliament buildings at the scales connected therewith. The wood must be of good quality, the hardwood in the proportion of not less than one-half maple and the residue of beech or kinds equally good.

Forms of tender and other information can be had on application to this department. Tenders will be received for the supply of the wood and the coal separately, and separately for Toronto and Ottawa. The bona fide signatures of two sufficient sureties will be required for the fulfilment of the contract, or for each of the contracts.

W. EDWARDS, Secretary.

Department of Public Works, Toronto, June 10th, 1893.

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- Mosquito Net, 60-in., 8 yards 60c.
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- Nainsook Embroidery, lace edge, 10c.
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- Ladies' Lisle Cuff Gloves, 25c., Children's, 20c.
- Ladies' Kid Gloves, cream and light shades, 4 to 6 button, 25c.
- Ladies' Kid Gloves, Lacing, 7 hooks, 25c, were \$1.
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- Lisle Half Hose, stripes, 15c, were 25c.

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WM. FITZPATRICK, Secretary, Fergus P. O., Ont.