

THE ONTARIO WORKMAN.

Our columns are open for the discussion of all questions affecting the working classes. All communications must be accompanied by the names of the writers, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

(INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.)

ADDITIONAL DATA

Single insertions, ten cents per line. Each subsequent insertion, five cents per line.

~~437~~ All communications should be addressed to the Office, 124 Bay Street, or to Post Office Box 1025.

Trades' Assembly Hall.

Application for renting the halls for special meetings and other purposes to be made to Mr. Andrew Scott, 211 King Street East.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, SEPT. 12, 1872

Journalists of late have been discussing the proposed meeting of the three Emperors of continental Europe, and speculating upon the probable effects that will likely follow the consummation of the meeting—the programme of which has been made known. The Three Eagles propose, in the first place, to interpose their united power against any attempt of France to regain her lost provinces. Prussia's last accession of territory is to be secured to her by the three million bayonets which the three rulers can bring into the field. Her other provinces have been secured from those who are unable to retaliate—from Hungary, Poland, Denmark, and the weaker German States. Alsace and Lorraine have been taken from a nation which has proved its military prowess, its immense power and flexibility of resources, in all the great European wars of the last four centuries; and Prussia, fearing that without help her newly acquired provinces may otherwise fall from her grasp, invokes the aid and assistance of her new allies to enable her to keep possession of them. Prussia's military institutions and method of government have almost broken down before the fixed determination of the annexed people to repel the advances of their new masters. German sagacity argues that a war with France is an inevitable part of their future, and consequently few will risk their capital in cities that must be decimated in the first shock of the conflict. But if Austria and Russia will guarantee that the tide of future war will be kept from their gates, German cautiousness may be overcome, and the occupation of the Gallic provinces become a success.

Hungarians as much as is considered safe by the despots of the north; and as Russia crushed the Hungarian rebellion of '48, so will Austria, by the iron heel of oppression, repress the rising spirit of freedom and the spread of representative institutions. Unfortunate Bohemians and Croats must be taught that they are seeking more from the House of Hapsburg than is at all agreeable to, or will be sanctioned by, the Houses of Hohenzollern and Romanoff. The concessions and reforms which Austria has been compelled to make must be recalled, and by the hand of dynastic convenience must be stifled the aspirations of nationality.

One other thing the Eagles are to do is to fix the doom of the much dreaded International Society. That the workmen of continental Europe have of late proved their strength in a series of social conflicts, that have resulted in placing them in a higher position in the social scale than they have hitherto occupied, cannot be questioned. The German peasant has begun to reject the agrarian regulations by which he was bound, and thousands of them have found homes on the prairies and in the forests of this continent. The whole industrial system of Europe has been stirred into activity, and the laborers have, by united resistance, urged their way to position and power. The Emperors who are now met at Berlin know all this, and know, also, that social progress and despotic rule are eternally opposed to each other; and hence their anxiety to speedily crush the great democratic association known as the International.

LONDON PATRIOTIC CLUB.

Mr. Robertson recently submitted to a meeting of the members of this club, which had its quarters on Clerkenwell Green, a new political "platform," for which he claimed all the advantages of previous platforms put forth by Mr. Scott Russell, Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Morley, the International, Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. Gladstone, and, lastly, Lord Russell. Its propositions were ranged under five distinct heads:—

1. Reform of the House of Lords, which in its present form was, in Mr. Robertson's opinion, contrary to the constitution of the country. The hereditary principle should be abolished, and in its place a principle of selection set up, whereby the upper chamber should comprise men distinguished in the various walks of science, statesmanship and patriotism.

2. Separation of Church and State, the union of which, he said, was devised by the wisdom of our forefathers for the benefit of society as it then existed, and was altogether unsuited to the present times.

3. Triennial parliaments. The seven years' parliaments had this effect, that incapable men once returned to parliament could remain there against the

4. *Homo rulo*, measures of sanitary improvements, such as canals, tramways, waterworks, gas companies, and such like being taken in hand by some local authority. Magistrates should be elected as representing the public interest, and their appointment be placed on the same footing as civic appointments in large boroughs. •The administration of justice in counties, and even in the high courts of Scotland, was altogether subsidiary to the landed interest.

A cordial vote of thanks was recorded to Mr. Robertson for his paper.—*English Paper.*

The *Trades Journal* of Boston considers that in the present political contest in the United States Labor Reformers are considerably demoralized.

The New Hampshire men, as a rule, go for Greeley, so does Puett, of Indiana, who is credited with manipulating the Columbus Convention for Justice Davis. Winn, of California, is for Grant; so are such Massachusetts leaders as S. P. Cummings and Wendell Phillips. Elsewhere, and notably in New York and Pennsylvania, there is a disposition to coalesce with and give direction to the Democratic Convention at Louisville, Ky., which it is expected will nominate a President.

Non-enforcement of the eight-hour law is charged against the administration in many quarters, but the Washington correspondent of the *Traveller* makes the following statement about the matter:—

"Col. Hinton, the secretary of the resident Republican Committee here, has personally investigated the subject, and finds that since the last Presidential proclamation no complaint has come from any quarter relative to the non-enforcement of the law. As is well known, different constructions were put upon the law by military officers, but workmen who were compelled, by reason of those constructions, to work more than eight hours per day, are now receiving extra compensation for their services. It is only in a few cases of river, harbor and lighthouse works, where natural obstacles of tide, etc., render it absolutely necessary to labor an extra number of hours at a stretch at certain hours, as at Minot Ledge, that any departure from the law is allowed."

We are glad to hear that there is really something doing at LYNN in the way of practical co-operation in the manufacture of shoes. It is said that the strike has led to this, and thus, possibly, the workmen may have indirectly helped themselves by their adhesion to the Crispin order. We heard of one promising attempt, for which the means have been furnished by wealthy parties in this city, and several other associations are in process of formation under the general law of the State recently adopted. The plan which seems to promise success is for a small number of workmen, say twenty or thirty, to unite, contribute a capital of fifty dollars each, to be paid in advance or in instalments, and appoint a general manager, who looks after the details of the business. The men work at some

THE GENEVA ARBITRATION CLOSED.

JOURNALISTIC.

The familiar face of the Boston *American Workman* has passed away, and in its place we are greeted with the *Trades Journal*. The *Workman* has been an ably conducted journal, earnest in the cause of Labor Reform, and with the new name the proprietors hold on to the old faith. The *Trades Journal* says:

"We entered the lists some years ago as a champion of Labor, and we have fought some battles successfully, some have been drawn, others are waging, and others have yet to be opened. Our cause and our faith remain, and we shall fight on valiantly, hopefully, and, as we trust, successfully, in behalf of labor and its claims, privileges and rewards.

The more comfortable the home of the workingman is, other things being equal, the better his work. A man or woman in good spirits can do more and better work than one in spirits depressed. What is calculated to make working people feel happy more than a happy home !

Home, home, sweet home !
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.

One of the first duties of all parties interested in promoting the success of labor, is to make its homes happy. Every corporation in the country owes a duty to working people in this respect. When they can add to the resources of home enjoyment among all they employ, employers should do so. A comfortable home makes the workman all the more ready to work.

Give him meat and convenient dwellings. Let them be well ventilated. See to it that they are kept in repair. Be particular that there is plenty of pure water. Encourage as far as possible the use of ice in summer. Provide for the construction of grass plots with conveniences for flowers.

Employers who give these facilities to their working people will not only promote their home comforts but their own interests. If there should be, unfortunately, any employees who do not appreciate these advantages, who neglect to take proper care of the premises they now have, the good work of reform should go on. Let the rents be as cheap as they possibly can be, and the workingmen and women will have so much the more to add to the happiness of

We had occasion in a previous issue to refer to a trade dispute that had arisen between the proprietors of the *Edinburgh Scotsman* and their employees, at the same time giving the causes that occasioned the action of the type's. Our late exchanges contain a very lengthy account of an immense and enthusiastic mass meeting of the workmen of that city, which was held in the Music Hall. The meeting was conducted entirely by Trades Unionists, and it is generally acknowledged that the speeches delivered on the occasion would compare favorably with those where the speakers occupy a higher position in society. The policy of the "*Scotsman*" newspaper, past and present, was discussed fully and fearlessly by the various speakers, of many of whom it was said, "truth made them eloquent." Resolutions were moved and enthusiastically carried as follows:—

Moved by Mr. Holborn, tin-plater,
and seconded by Mr. Cribbes, tailor—

“ Having heard the statement on behalf of the composers lately employed in the *Scotsman* newspaper—Resolved that the hearty sympathy of this meeting be tendered to the printers now on strike in support of their adopted and recognised scale of prices, and in their resistance to the oppressive measures pursued by the proprietors of the *Scotsman*, in their persistent efforts to overturn a just and binding office and trade agreement.”

Moved by Mr. Dewar, blacksmith,
and seconded by Mr. Paterson, en-
gineer—

“ Viewing the present action of the *Scotsman* proprietors as an attempt to carry out in practice the opinions so long and so determinedly advocated by that newspaper, subversive of trades unions and generally depreciative of the efforts of workingmen, however well directed—Resolved, that such conduct deserves, and hereby receives, the unqualified condemnation of this meeting. Further resolved, that a practical expression of feeling being called for, this meeting pronounces the *Scotsman* unworthy of the confidence of workingmen, and pledges itself to discontinue its support of the *Scotsman*, by ceasing to subscribe for, advertise in, or otherwise patronise, either directly or indirectly, individually or collectively, a newspaper so avowedly hostile to the working classes.”

During the delivery of the speeches, frequent allusion was made to the advisability of establishing a workingman's organ, and it is not improbable our next advices will inform us of the fact of the establishment of such a journal.

Three of the composers concerned in the strike of the Edinburgh "Scotsman" have been brought before the courts on a charge of deserting employment, and after a protracted trial one of them was fined £5 and costs, and the two other cases were not proven.

 The members of Brunswick L. O. Lodge, No. 404, intend holding their annual pic-nic in West Lodge Gardens, on Saturday next. Every effort has been made for a "first-class time," and nothing is wanted to complete the arrangements but a fine day, which we hope they will have.

During our absence last week, a communication received from Hamilton bearing on the presentation to Mr. Tarbox, was inadvertently omitted. As no interest will attach to the communication at this late date, we deem it but just to the writer to make mention of the omission. We hope to hear from our correspondent again, and will take measures to prevent a similar occurrence.

THE WHITE HART, corner of Yonge and Elm Street, is conducted on the good old English system, which gives the greatest satisfaction to its patrons. The bar is most tastefully decorated, and the surroundings are all that could be desired. A spacious billiard parlor, and attentive waiters, render the WHITE HART a popular place of resort. adv.