

If they don't see it, then they must be made to, as it is a fact that no one dare dispute that when employers assume the prerogative of saying how long thousands shall work, they introduce a species of slavery more detestable than that so often denounced by Britain, though connived at by Britons. My advice is to go on, you may be temporarily checked, but you never can be repulsed. Your agitation will have the effect of driving many to solve questions who have never given them a thought, and with this result, which is certain, if the employers continue to hold their present position, they will find that by deferring the settlement, the demands have become more heavy, the men better united, more determined, and not to be resisted or trifled with."

Communications.

NINE HOUR MOVEMENT.

To the Editor of the Ontario Workman.

SIR,—I have received your first issue; have read your editorial; glanced over the paper generally; and as a workman, I wish you every success.

I am pleased to notice the fact that you regard the NINE HOUR MOVEMENT as one link in the chain of progress, by which we hope to see misery and suffering removed in part from our race. The misery and suffering which exists cannot be necessary in a world which produce enough for all. I have some faith in a "good time coming," and hope you may help it onward.

Truly yours,

HUMANITY.

Toronto, April 23, 1872.

THE PRINTERS' STRIKE.

To the Editor of the Ontario Workman.

SIR,—I notice by a correspondence in the LEADER of Monday, that affairs are not going the smoothest in some of the printing offices that are asking for "a few more compositors," etc., and that the boast of the employers that they would have entire control of the "internal arrangements" of their offices, seems to have less likelihood of accomplishment now, than would be the case if they had MEN working for them instead of THINGS! The monopoly of "fat" promised to the "long-tailed vermin," proved so unpopular with the "country mice," that "combination and conspiracy" had to be resorted to by them in order to secure their share of the spoils. It would be too bad if discord were so speedily to creep in among the "happy family," ere the "rat-catcher" has been able to recover his baits.

TERRELL.

Toronto, April 24, 1872.

HAMILTON CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Ontario Workman.

SIR,—The success your able paper is obtaining among the workmen must be highly gratifying to you in more senses than a pecuniary one. It shows the workmen are alive to the necessities of the age, and determined to advance with the times. Your paper satisfies a deep, real want, that has long been felt by the workmen, and their need will prove the cause of your success. There have been, and are, plenty of papers in Canada, but none on which the workmen could honestly rely, or who cared to learn the nature of the wants and wishes peculiar to the workmen—the chief objects of these papers being personal emolument and party triumph, the workman being alternately feted and duped to obtain this end. The day when the bombast of the "Globe," or incoherences of the "Telegraph," can mislead the workmen is rapidly passing away.

Your paper, by honestly giving expression to the wants and desires of the workmen, and cultivating their minds aright upon questions of broad national policy, will be the means of hastening the good time coming, when inequalities before the law shall be abolished, and the artificial distinctions of society be remembered among the things that were.

Since the Nine Hours' agitation has commenced in Hamilton the men have displayed great foresight and prudence. Not contented with a Nine Hours' League—for that will be abolished as soon as its object is gained—they have organized themselves into Trade Associations, for mutual protection and support—giving assurance that the extra time they will shortly obtain will be put to a good use; for they not only benefit themselves, but their employers, when sobriety, dexterity, independence, and skill become the objects of their ambition, the goal they strive to obtain. In a few weeks Hamilton will stand foremost among the cities of Canada, both for the number of Trade Organizations and the intelligence and earnestness its members possess.

You will allow me to correct a false impression that has been assiduously circulated respecting the concession the Great Western Railway Company have made to their workmen. I am sorry to say that two of our dailies wilfully misconstrued the purport of that concession for party purposes, knowing what great effect a knowledge of the concession would produce upon the workmen generally throughout the Province. The G. W. R. workmen, when working full time, perform 58½ hours' work per week (the 1½ hours being an old gift from the authorities to their men); and under the new system, commencing the 1st of May, they will for 54 hours' work receive the same pay as they obtained in the month of March for 58½ hours' work. And the value of the concession will be apparent when it is known that the Company have no means of recuperating themselves for any loss they may sustain, for they can neither add a cent to their passengers' ticket nor increase the tariff of their freight.

HUMANITAS.

Hamilton, April 21st, 1872.

MEMORIAL.

The following is a copy of a memorial that has been addressed to the operative classes of Great Britain by the Trade Unionists of this and sister cities. The document ably reviews the position of affairs in Canada, and will undoubtedly be the means of enlightening our fellow-workers in the Mother Country.

For a considerable time a growing agitation has been in progress among the workmen in Canada for the purpose of securing a reduction in the hours of labor; and while watching with a keen and lively interest the progress of the Short Time Movement in Britain, they have been diligently organizing and preparing for the accomplishment of the same reform here.

Believing that your sympathies will be cordially extended to your brethren on this side of the Atlantic, we venture to present you with a brief delineation of our present difficulty.

The Printers and Bookbinders of the city of Toronto presented a memorial to their employers, requesting the adoption of 54 hours as constituting a week's work, giving valid reasons why the request was neither injudicious nor ill-timed. Their request met with a contemptuous denial, and the men struck work. During the first three weeks of the strike, the master printers resorted to threats, intimidation, and bribes to break up the union among the men. Failing in these attempts, they brought individual printers before a pliable Police Magistrate, and obtained sentence against them upon the plea that they had left their work without giving due notice thereof, the custom of the trade and of the country being for both employers and employed to give and take a minutes' notice. Finding even this to fail in breaking up the Union, they have at last caused to be arrested twenty-four members of the Typographical Union, upon the charge of combination and conspiracy; and upon the issue of this trial rests not only the sanctity of individual freedom, but also the right of subjects to agitate public questions for trade purposes or the general weal.

The workmen of Canada have started a "defence fund" for the purpose of securing the best legal talent they can give to defend the representatives of their personal rights; and we appeal to you for support, inasmuch as your expressions of sympathy and moral support will be the means of showing the employers of this country that, though seas divide they do not separate us, and, though locally apart, we are actively allied, and that any attempt in one part of the British dominions to violate the principles of freedom we have so long been taught to possess will only have the effect of calling forth a scathing rebuke from all the rest.

The mean and selfish policy pursued by the employers throughout the whole history of the agitation, as well as the despicable and arbitrary measures resorted to to secure their avowed object, namely: the crushing of union—is of such a nature that it cannot fail to call forth manifold expressions of indignation from a freedom and a peace-loving people; while, on the other hand, the men who have been subjected to such abusive and inconsiderate usage have conducted themselves in a way that reflects credit to the cause, and redounds with honor upon the head of each individual engaged in the struggle.

We would embrace this opportunity, and press upon any of our brother tradesmen in the Mother Country who contemplate coming to this Dominion the desirability of considering the question in all its bearings, believing that it would be imprudent to take such a step while the present dispute is pending, if, in fact, such a step would not at any time prove a source of disappointment and regret.

Any support, whether in the shape of funds or resolutions supporting our position, will be thankfully received and acknowledged in THE ONTARIO WORKMAN, Toronto LEADER, Montreal STAR, and Hamilton STANDARD, and copies sent to the principal workmen's papers through the United Kingdom.

On behalf of our brethren in Canada, we remain yours fraternally,

JOHN HEWITT, Toronto Trades' Assembly.
THOMAS SHAW, Montreal Nine Hours' League; JAMES RYAN, Hamilton Nine Hours' League; JOHN BALLANTYNE, Dundas; W. JACKSON, Ingersoll; G. BROWN, Oshawa; O. S. CLARKE, Sarina; THOS. MAGNESS, St. Catharines.

RED RIVER REBELLION.

CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION.

OTTAWA, April 22.—The return respecting the investigation of the claims of sufferers by the Red River insurrection was submitted to the House this evening. It contains a communication, dated 21st December, 1871, from F. J. Johnson, who was appointed Commissioner to adjust the claims. He says that from the 7th August to the date of the report, he heard evidence in support of the claims as the claimants might offer them. Every claim intended to be presented has been received, together with all the evidence in support of which parties were able to secure. But these claims far exceeded in number and amount what he had imagined possible. He thinks there may be five or six claims not yet brought forward. Many claims which were presented did not seem to him to be included in the terms in the vote on the supply bill; but as they were usually mixed with demands grounded on imprisonment or loss of property, which did not come within those terms, the course he had adopted was to receive all evidence that parties desired to bring forward, and to consider, in forming his conclusions, only such as were applicable under the terms of the vote; and he says in conclusion that he was guided by equitable principles rather than technical rules. He restricted the claims to "loss of property," "imprisonment," and "forced emigration from the country." Accompanying the report was evidence and particulars of each claim. The report of the committee of the Privy Council to whom the recorder's statements were submitted, accompanied the schedule, which showed the total amount of claims to be \$336,260, and the recorder's are \$85,755. In addition to this latter amount, they report that in the early part of 1870 the sum of \$800 was advanced in aid of refugees then in Canada from North-West who were represented as being in a necessitous condition. They recommended the sum of \$2,000 be voted to the parents of Thos. Scott, and a sum of \$48,000 to be placed in the supplementary estimates of the current year to cover the excess over the vote of \$40,000 granted by Parliament last year for the claims.

STRIKE OF LUMBERMEN.

An information was laid before Mr. A. MacNabb, in the capacity of a County Justice, on Monday afternoon, charging a number of men employed by Messrs. Walsh and Lovey, lumber merchants and contractors of this city, at their saw mills at Mount Millick, about six miles from Aurora, with conspiracy, and having struck work on account of some misunderstanding with their employers. Wednesday morning, Detective Sheehan, armed with a warrant for the arrest of a certain number of the men, and accompanied by Police Constables Carr, Reid, and Brackenreid, proceeded to Aurora by the Northern railway, and from thence to the mills where they found the men standing around idle. They proceeded to arrest nine of the men who appeared to be ringleaders. Three of the men attempted to resist the Police with cowards and axes, when the constables drew their revolvers and made the men drop their formidable weapons; they were then handcuffed and brought to this city by the evening train and lodged in No. 1 Police station for the night. The names of the nine men who were arrested are as follows:—Hugh McEntee, Wm. Rose, Anthony West, Henry Johnstone, Wm. McAnn, Wilbert Hurd, Robert Riddell, Geo. Faulkner and William Tracey.

THE MONTREAL STAR ON THE ARREST.

It is alleged against the printers now under arrest at Toronto, that they notified deserters from their cause that after the strike was over their names would be printed on a black list. This terrible threat goes to build up the charge of "conspiracy." An impartial observer cannot help remembering how Mr. George Brown has scores of times not merely threatened to black-letter those who dared to differ from him politically, but how he has thus shown his wish to bring odium upon the name of many a man whose little finger contained more honesty than Brown's whole body. The printers' list would be a mere list, pure and simple, and the Globe's typographical displays are always surrounded with heaps of the vilest and most abusive epithets. The one characteristic of the Globe's style is the attempt to intimidate. If the printers are guilty of any offence, the managing editor of the Globe stands convicted of years of criminality.

There is a bill now pending before the British Parliament which provides against colliery accidents, by the appointment of a responsible manager to each coal mine, by insisting upon security of roofs and sidings, by allowing gunpowder to be brought into the mine only after it is made up into cartridges, and by prohibiting the use of powder in blasting for coal. The bill looks after the ventilation of the mines and their machinery.

The Indian Observer's special correspondent gives a full and circumstantial account of the recovery of little Mary Winchester so long in captivity amongst the Looshais. Here is an extract:—"Mary Winchester is at length safely in the hand of the military, and is by this time on her way to Calcutta. She is a very pretty child of about six years old, with fair complexion, hazel eyes, and pure European features. The officer who was sent up to Luton Poy's village to receive charge of her found the young lady wholly naked, save for a blue rag round her loins, sitting on the log step of a Kookie house, from whence, pipe in mouth, she pulled forth smoky commands to a bevy of young savages who were disporting themselves for her amusement in front of the shanty. She appeared to know no language save the Kookie tongue until the receiver of this stolen property craftily inquired, with grave

fumbling in pocket, whether she would like some sweetmeats. To this ancient but familiar demand her memory instantly replied by the request, 'Give me them.' Poor little thing."

THE CORKCUTTERS' STRIKE.

IMPORTANT DECISION UNDER THE MASTER AND SERVANT ACT.

Before Sheriff Hallard, at the Sheriff Court on Monday, Mr. Currie, corkcutter, Leith, submitted a petition under the Master and Servant Act, which concluded for £10 damages against each of five workmen who had left his employment without the usual week's notice. It was arranged that a decision against one of the defendants should rule the other cases, and a workman named Somers was placed at the bar. Mr. Patterson S.S.C., Leith, appeared for Mr. Currie, and Mr. Mair, advocate, conducted the case of the defendants. Mr. Currie deposed that his men had been out on strike, but his son had conferred with them, and reported to him that they were to resume work at an increase of wages. On the following Monday morning, Somers, an old hand, commenced work, but did not return on Tuesday morning in consequence of the strike, as he believed by so doing he would be liable to a penalty to the union. The witness, in proof of his statement, read a letter sent to him by the secretary of the union, which stated "that it had been resolved by a majority of two to one that the men stand by the bill of wages that had been presented to the employers." A number of witnesses, including both masters and workmen, were examined, but the decision turned upon the point whether a tried man, known to be a good workman, who had left his work for some time on strike, and whose demand had been acceded to by the employers, was to be considered as a new hand, the practice in the trade being that a new hand during the currency of his first week was not bound to give or receive a week's notice. The Sheriff held that the workman had given in his warning and left the pursuer's employment. Some time after, he came back clearly as a new man, and was therefore by the usage of the trade not entitled to give or receive a week's warning. The Sheriff accordingly decreed in favour of the workmen. Mr. Mair asked for expenses, and was awarded 5s. for each workman who had attended, and 10s. for each master—in all, six guineas.

TORONTO TO THE RESCUE.

(From the Prince Albert Observer.)

Our blustering little capital is putting on a few of its accustomed airs, and arrogating to itself a power and consequence which fortunately for the community it never did possess, and which it very likely never will. It is hobbling to the front in its premature decrepitude, and telling the sons of toil in all lands, but especially in Canada, that union amongst workmen for the protection of labor will not be tolerated, that the Grand Moguls of Toronto have said it, and therefore it will be suppressed. First they invoked the thunders, or better, the squeakings of the law in the celebrated opinion of Mr. Harrison regarding the illegality of Workmen's Unions. Of course a man's mind is his kingdom, and no blame can be attached to him for his opinion, but the rusty curiature of law which it reveals is simply a disgrace to the statute books of any country; and those Master Printers at whose instance that miserable, antiquated statutory abortion was brought to light, can be no friends of their country in thus holding her up to ridicule, by showing to the world that ever such iniquitous laws had a place in her statute books. Finding that their one-sided Draconian code failed to effect the purpose desired, that the affrighted workmen did not at once and forever give up all idea of self-protection, and leave themselves in future wholly at the mercy of the employers, something new must be tried. The next act in the drama is the combination of all the principal employers in the city against all the workmen in the world; but they may save themselves the trouble, labor will henceforth be protected, notwithstanding all the bluster which would-be aristocrats can raise, and it is in the interest of mankind that it should be so. The more comfortable we can make the sons of toil, the better will it be for all classes of the community, except it may be a few skin flints, whose intelligence and aspirations never rise higher than grinding the face of the poor and giving protection to the needy—such protection as wolves give to lambs.

Let workmen be well recompensed for their labor, and let the hours of labor be such as will afford them sufficient time for recreation and study, then will communities rise in the scale of comfort and intelligence as designed for them by their Creator, men will have means and time to see to and provide for the thorough education of their offspring, who growing up intelligent, industrious and frugal, no longer hearing the oppressors' voice or dreading the tyrant rods, will faithfully perform their duties to society, their country and their God, from principle as enlightened freemen, and not from servile fear as abject slaves.

It is true that this state of things would go far towards the annihilation of these hordes of petty tyrants, who to a greater or less degree infest almost every community, but the world can well afford the loss of all such, and be a vast gainer by the loss. The more comfortable and intelligent the workmen are made the more prosperous and happy will the nation prove. The agriculturist will sell more and obtain a higher price for his products, more manufactures will be required, merchants will do a larger, safer, and more profitable business, our schools will be larger and more regularly attended, our reading rooms and lecture

halls will find hosts of patrons, and there will be few dusty seats in our sanctuaries, while our clergy will be better paid. Our glittering, tinsel'd pageants would become beautifully less, buckrunt and stark would be at a discount, and what the petty, strutting lordlings lacked in brain would have to be made up in sweat, as a handful of sovereigns would no longer suffice to keep their possessor rolling in luxury and wealth, while the very men who produced that wealth, labouring almost incessantly stood on the very brink of penury. In almost all countries there are hosts of workmen who cannot find employment, but if the hours of labour were diminished the work would be divided over all and thus the most fruitful source of pauperism and dissipation would be removed. It is true that employers would not accumulate fortunes quite so rapidly as they now do but they would be more comfortable than they are now, for a better feeling would exist between employers and employees as the workmen would have a more equitable portion of that wealth which their labour produces.

THE PARKS BILL.

A crowded and enthusiastic meeting was held on Thursday evening in St. James's Hall, to protest against the passing of the Parks Regulation Bill. Among the speakers were—Sir Henry Hoare, Bart., M.P.; Hon. Auberon Herbert, M.P.; Sir Charles Dilke, Bart., M.P.; Captain Mace, Mr. Odger, Mr. Bradlaugh, and others. The Hon. Auberon Herbert and Sir Charles received enthusiastic ovations, the whole audience rising, and the protracted cheering being again and again renewed. The whole of the democratic speakers expressed their want of confidence in the present Government, which some characterised as the most mean and contemptible that had ever existed. They looked upon Mr. Ayrton as the first commissioner of dirty works, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Forster, and Mr. Stansfeld as only fit for parish headles, whom they were determined to oust at the next election. The present Government, which pretended to be liberal, had been the one which had sought to prevent freedom of speech by having spies and detectives at the houses where the working men met. They had induced the licensing magistrates even to alter the name of the Hole-in-the-Wall and christen it "The Crown and Constitution," as if that would make people loyal. It would be well if the officiating sponsors would now go down to the House of Commons and christen that the Hole-in-the-Wall. Resolutions pledging the meeting to oppose the bill were enthusiastically carried. Mr. Bradlaugh pledged himself to put it to a vote, and doubted not that 500,000 men would follow him to the parks, and he would lead them to Palace Yard as well. Sir Charles Dilke, in reference to a remark made by Mr. Odger, which might lead the public to think that it was Mr. Milbank who the other night was cock-crowling behind the Speaker's chair, wished to say that Mr. Milbank was sitting in his place the whole of the night, and took no part in that unseemly disturbance.—Exchange.

NAVIGATION.

KINGSTON, April 22.—Navigation is now fully opened here. The Cape Vincent ferry steamer made their first trip to-day. Shipbuilding has never been more active in this city than at present. The new propeller China will be launched on Saturday.

ST. CATHARINES, April 22.—The water was let in to the canal on Friday night. Navigation opened this morning.

ST. CATHARINES, April 23.—A United States propeller and the tug Robt steel in the ice about three miles out; since last night they appear to have made no progress. The ice is stronger this morning with the frost of last night, and the wind driving it closer together. The captains of outward bound boats say they will have to wait for weather before they can leave.

COTEAU LANDING, April 20.—The ice on Lake St. Francis commenced moving about 4 o'clock to-day. The east wind causes it to move very slowly.

PORT BYRKE, April 22.—The first arrival of the season here was the schooner "Active," from Port Rowan, with 18,000 bushels of wheat for John Shaw, which arrived yesterday. The ice appeared in large quantities outside on Saturday.

QUEBEC, April 22.—The ice bridge opposite the city is complete; gone, as also the ice in the river St. Charles, and steamboat navigation has commenced.

THORNHURST, April 22.—The bay is now free from ice, but if the wind continues it will again be blocked. The wind is northerly and cold. The thermometer is 30° above zero.

FORT ERIE, April 22.—Large quantities of ice passed down the river on Saturday night and Sunday. One field of it smashed the dock at Black Rock. The piers of the International bridge suffered no damage whatever. The water in the river is still very low.

BURLINGTON, Vt., April 23.—The ice broke up in Lake Champlain last night, and the first steamer went across to-day. The lake has been frozen over since January 5th, the longest time on record.

SEBASTOPOL TO BE RE-BUILT.—Continental politicians draw an inference which may have some truth in it from the announcement that Russia intends to re-construct Sebastopol and make it once more a great arsenal. They infer that follows after the conclusion of a tripartite treaty between Russia, Germany, and Italy. It appears very probable that a treaty has been concluded between Italy and Germany. The apprehensions which are felt by the Italians as to the future policy of France would naturally incline Italy towards such an alliance, and as there can be little doubt that the German and Russian Governments understand each other, there may be the triple alliance which is suspected. For some time there have been signs that Italy might be made use of in the solution of the Eastern question in a way contrary to the interests of Turkey. The Kings of Greece and Turkey have been making friends. Now the King and Queen of Denmark, the father and mother of the King of Greece, are visiting Victor Emmanuel; and the Prince of Wales, with the Princess, who is the sister of the Greek King and the future Empress of Russia, are on their way to Rome. It is possible that by-and-by we may discover that dynastic alliances are not unattended by political consequences.