

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(INVARIABLE IN ADVANCE.)

For Annum	\$2 00
Six Months	1 00
Single copies	5c

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

Contract Advertisements at the following rates:	
One column, for one year	\$150 00
Half "	85 00
Quarter "	50 00
Quarter "	35 00
Quarter "	25 00
One column, for 6 months	80 00
Half "	45 00
Quarter "	25 00
Quarter "	15 00
One column, for 3 months	50 00
Half "	30 00
Quarter "	17 00
Quarter "	10 00

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

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

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.

WILLIAMS, SLEETH & MACMILLAN.

Trades Assembly Hall.

Meetings are held in the following order:—  
 Machinists and Blacksmiths, every Monday.  
 Painters, 1st and 3rd Monday.  
 Coachmakers, 2nd and 4th Monday.  
 Crispins, (159), 1st and 3rd Tuesday.  
 K.O.S.C. Lodge 356, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.  
 Tin-Smiths, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.  
 Cigar Makers, 2nd and 4th Wednesday.  
 Iron Moulders, every Thursday.  
 Plasterers, 1st and 3rd Thursday.  
 Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday.  
 Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Friday.  
 Coopers, 2nd and 4th Friday.  
 Printers, 1st Saturday.  
 Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

TO CORRESPONDENCE.

Our Hamilton correspondence on the Lien Law was received too late for insertion this week. Will appear in our next.  
 "Heather Jock" of Oshawa—was also received too late.

The Ontario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, FEB. 27, 1873.

MASS MEETING AT HAMILTON.

On Friday night the workmen of Hamilton—following the example of Toronto—intend to give a public expression of opinion on the questions before the country. The programme for discussion will be similar to the one adopted in Toronto. Representatives, we understand, will be present from various parts of the province. From all we can learn a splendid spirit seems to animate the unions and workmen generally in the "Ambitious City," and there is little doubt to be entertained that the meeting will have its effect, if not in the immediate present, assuredly it will in the not distant future.

We believe large benefits will result from such public expressions of opinion as were given in Toronto, and will be given in Hamilton on Friday, and probably other parts at a future day. They not only show that a large number of the workers are taking a deep and intelligent interest in the affairs of the country, and are capable of examining such legislative measures as are proposed, and deciding whether they will operate in favor of, or militate against their interests, as a class; but they also tend to bring into active operation the latent talents and sympathies of those who otherwise would remain inactive; and they further tend to prove that one common sentiment is permeating the masses, and that the operative classes, as a whole, are awakening more fully to a realization of the power that is vested in them as a class.

We do not believe there exists in the minds of the generality of workmen any desire to secure mere class legislation—that is, legislation that would benefit them to the injury of any other class of society—but they are awakening to the fact that hitherto, to a very great extent, their interests have been overlooked, if not altogether ignored, and the interests of other classes fostered at their expense; and now, beginning to realize that the remedy will not come from any outside source, but is in their own hands, they are determined to make their voices heard, so that future legislation may be of such a character that they

will realize a fair share of its benefits. Such will not be the case with some of the bills that have been introduced at the present session of the Ontario Parliament; and if we might be allowed to make a suggestion to our friends in Hamilton, it would be that, at their meeting on Friday night, they show the one-sidedness of the bills to settle disputes between masters and servants, and the bill providing for a participation in profits.

MASTERS' AND WORKMENS' ACT

This Act, said to be for the purpose of settling disputes between masters and workmen, is full of one-sided meaning. Upon a thorough perusal of the bill we cannot find one clause that would be asked for or desired by the workmen themselves, while every clause is as favorable to the employer who would have a desire to crush the spirit out of those he employs, as he could possibly have wished. It may be said that the workings of the act is based on the mutual agreement of the parties concerned; but notwithstanding, the very existence of this act is calculated to place undue power in the hands of the employer, which may cause much injustice, hard feeling and suffering. For instance, to show how mutual the agreement to this bill may be, should the workmen wish to come under the workings of the act and the employers should not, what means can the workman take to force his proposition?—strike! But how easy it would be to-day for the employers in any trade to take advantage of the season and the dullness of times to agree among themselves that they would force the provisions of this act upon their men, by going to them in this manner and saying that they (the master iron-workers for instance) had agreed among themselves to come under the provisions of this act, and that they wished the signatures of those who worked for them to the memorandum also, and that they only wished those who would sign such memorandum to work for them; why, in all probability, a large number of the workmen, from sheer necessity, would be compelled to sign the memorandum. And men of an autocratic stamp—such as was demonstrated even in this city in the agitation of last summer—once having their establishments running on this principle might bid defiance to independent labor, and feel themselves secure in the midst of their coolie serfs. We hope that the mass meeting in Hamilton will follow the example set by the meeting in Toronto and condemn the measure, and petition the executive to prevent it from becoming law.

THE WOOD QUESTION.

The fuel question is one that affects all classes of society, especially in this country, at this season of the year; and that the traffic in this necessary article should be of the freest and most unrestricted character, is a demand that cannot fail to receive the most hearty support of our citizens; and a ring or monopoly on the one hand or the other, to restrict the traffic and enhance the value of this necessary of life, must always receive the unqualified condemnation of all honorable and right thinking workmen.

But in the agitation that has been, and is in progress, we have little sympathy from its present standpoint. It is rather aroused by a jealousy existing between one class of well known monopolists in the commodity of fuel and certain railway companies, not because they do not bring wood to the city in sufficient quantities, but rather because the honest wooddealers of Toronto do not control the whole rolling stock of those roads, and own all the wood that is brought in. If such were the case, we think the citizens would be well furnished with cheap wood as they are with cheap coal, which is laid on the docks in this city from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per ton, and for which the citizens pay now at the rate of \$9 per ton. There is a people's remedy, by which we may escape those second-hand monopolies in fuel (and it might be applied to other necessities of life with equal efficiency).

Every householder wants wood; let a number of them organize co-operative fuel associations—ten, twenty or thirty householders together send one of their number out along the lines of those narrow gauges to purchase a sufficient quantity of wood for their consumption, have it shipped and laid at their door at first cost, dispensing with the services of the middle-man, and then, and not till then, will the citizens begin to reap any substantial benefit from their gifts to those lines of railway.

THE OUTLOOK FOR SPRING.

From present appearances, there seems to be every probability of a renewal of the labor agitations during the coming spring. In fact, in New York preliminary action has already been taken, and the enforcement of the eight hour rule is the ostensible object of the movement. But it is more generally believed, however, that the real purpose is understood to be a concerted movement for an increase of wages, and the opening of the spring is selected as the time for a general demonstration. These symptoms cannot be viewed without uneasiness by all who desire progress and prosperity, and it cannot be too strongly urged upon employers and employed the necessity of endeavoring to establish councils of conciliation. We fully believe that timely consideration, kind feeling and fairness will go far to avert the evil. But should the folly of last year be re-enacted, and the employers, in very many instances, refuse to listen to the demands of the employed, then upon them will rest the responsibility of a state of unsettlement and agitation. By all means, let employers and employed meet to discuss the matters of difference between them, and thus do away with the necessity for the use of the formidable weapons of strikes, by which all parties suffer. When it is proposed to workmen that there is a desire to act fairly and justly by them, there will be no hurry on their part to resort to the last measure of defence in their power.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

The proper and honorable way to discontinue a newspaper is to examine your account with it, send by letter what you owe (with a stamp for the return of a receipt), and order it discontinued. To simply refuse to take it from the post-office, without paying arrearsages, does not release you in the law, while it is unfair and dishonorable, because the support of the newspaper comes in small dribs of \$1, \$2, \$3, from each of many widely scattered subscribers, whose wishes the editor can only learn directly from themselves, and whose arrearsages, though small in each case, the newspaper cannot afford to lose, while the subscriber can pay them without difficulty. Of course, no newspaper publisher can discontinue after a year has commenced, on the simple notice to do so, without arrearsages are paid.

We clip the following from one of our exchanges, and commend it to the notice of "those whom it may concern." We have had a few subscribers who have taken the paper for six or eight months, and then, without thinking of paying for that time, have refused the paper. Such action is the very essence of meanness, and we regret that any of our readers could have so far forgotten their self-respect and manliness as to stoop to such smallness.

PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.

In a recent issue we alluded to the bill that had been introduced in the Local Legislature, by Mr. Clarke, to give workmen a participation in the profits of the business. We pointed out the objectionable features at the time, and the same objections are now substantially urged from a quarter quite unexpected, by a large employer of labor. Mr. Glen, President of the Joseph Hall Works, Oshawa, writes thus of the bill to the Oshawa Vindicator:

DEAR SIR,—Herewith enclosed I send you a copy of a Bill entitled "An Act to facilitate agreements between Masters and Workmen for the participation in profits." This certainly is a very taking title, but upon examination of the Bill it is certainly one of the most contemptible specimens of demagoguery that I think any Government ever was guilty of perpetrating. The law as it now stands does not prevent any employer from giving his employees an interest in the profits of his business; but it

does not give employees an opportunity to obtain their rights in case an employer attempts to wrong them. This Bill gives no additional power to the employee, while it cuts off all redress by law, in case his employer chooses to wrong him.

I desire to call special attention to the second clause of the Bill. Ninety-nine employees in every hundred are not acquainted with the laws of the country, as they are so constantly and frequently altered, whereas the employer is given the information through his Attorney; and this last clause places the employee entirely at a disadvantage with his employer. Unless he makes a special arrangement on accepting an interest in his employer's business, this Act places him entirely at the mercy of his employer.

Yours very truly,  
 F. W. GLEN.

Oshawa, 17th Feb., 1873.

WORK AND LEISURE.

The Evangel of work, which Carlyle preached, is now succeeded by the Evangel of leisure. "Blessed is the man who has found his work: let him ask no other blessedness." The operative classes have always had their work, and they have always done it, but they are now asking for the blessedness of leisure. We have discovered that work is only valuable so far as it enables a man to purchase leisure. The people who profess to be shocked to find colliers refusing to work more than four days a week are easily answered; the men do not intend to kill themselves prematurely by working six days in a polluted atmosphere, if they can earn sufficient to live in four days. They can point to illustrious examples in the ranks of the middle class, at least, who sacrificed themselves by doing exactly what the middle-class capitalists and distributors recommend. Look at the lawyers who have died early, because they worked six days in the week, and gave themselves no rest, little sleep, no leisure. Even literature and science, when they have been combined with money-making, have had their martyrs. So have had the Exchange, the counting-house, and the shop. What we want to get to is, not exemption from labor, but the extinction of exhausting toil—the form of toil which takes away from the physical constitution of the man a part of his strength, his muscle, and his capacity to work, not less certainly than the loss of a limb. In the fierce, driving energy of the Anglo-Saxon character on both sides of the Atlantic, there is a tendency to create the survivors who do not succumb to disease or to misfortune into a separate class, and re-enact the laws of feudalism as laws of capital under the thin disguise of wages, with only this one difference between wages and suit and service—that the obligation of the lord to feed his vassals, his serfs, or his slaves, is not continued as an obligation by the side of wage in gold or silver.

As Mr. Stuart Mill has put it in his "Political Economy," we should strive to get to a state of Society where "the best state for human nature is that in which, whilst no one is poor, no one desires to be richer, nor has any reason to fear being thrust back by the efforts of others to push themselves forward." This is the idea which has taken root in the minds of the people who live by labor—manual labor, for the intellectual laborers are able to take care of themselves. It is widely expressing itself in the form of strikes, only because there is no other form of expression open to working people. When they talk, they are not listened to; they are derided as fools, and all the journals of society are employed in offering excellent arguments calculated to satisfy the minds of the upper classes, which go to show that the people who work only with their hands are very unreasonable persons indeed. There is no doubt, however, that a strike does penetrate the hard mass of prejudice, and make the upper classes amenable to reason. The upper classes are all interested in taking one view of the relations of capital and labor; and their view, which only goes to the accumulation of wealth in the hands of a few, with chances to a rather considerable section of clever distributors and manipulators, is sufficiently fascinating to the eyes of competitors to keep up the delusion. We are driven to consider what all the progression we have got so far has done for humanity. England is said to lay by and to store a hundred

millions of profit every year, and in 1871 she had sixty millions more than she had ever earned before. Who has got all this? The people? No, they are poorer than they were. The rich are made richer by another huge mortgage upon industry, which labor is called upon to provide interest for every year, for without labor neither rent nor interest would be forthcoming.

But is all the work we do necessary? May it not be reduced in time, made easier to the worker, and contribute less to waste by the very excess of bulk which is now produced? Should not the workingman have the benefit of the machinery invented every day in enhancing the value of his labor, whilst it shortens his hours of application. It seems to be assumed that we are always to be kept in the position of hewers and drawers, even where machines of the value of hundreds are entrusted to our charge. The engine-driver has not got the wages of a decent clerk; the clerk has leisure, and the driver has to toil night and day. The clerk takes care of his health; he is well-dressed; he may rise, the driver of a locomotive, if he is not killed, exhausts his capital of life every night he drives the express. The collier, the puffer, the sailor, waste their lives, if they are not even more prematurely suffocated, burnt, or drowned. Hence we are coming to this,—men must be paid for their work in proportion as others refuse to enter the ranks of their special industries. The man who carts dust to make bricks, who cleanses the sewers upon which depend the health of our cities, who boldly dares to enter the industries known to shorten life, must be better paid, because in fewer years he must find the means to retire from a work is certain death by the law of average and experience. This will check the production, it will be said. No such thing; it will only make more producers, and fewer distributors and paupers, who now effect a fussy idleness as go-betweens. It will remove the reproach that labor is not getal, but it will make labor honorable, and it will extinguish the petty vanity by which an intermediate class of people who are not capitalists, nor thinkers, nor discoverers, nor inventors, now make up a sham public opinion, that is only founded on the prejudices of broad cloth and satin. There is a great revolution coming, and it only needs the men who work to state their price, and they will get it in a better division of work, wages, and leisure. And the work which does not yield leisure is slavery.—Exchange.

BAKERS' ANNUAL SUPPER.

The Bakers' Union of this city intend holding their Annual Supper at Thomas' Chop House, on Saturday evening next. We wish them a very pleasant gathering—and have every reason to believe it will prove such.

PRESENTATION.

On Saturday evening, the numerous friends of Mr. P. Thornton, for the past ten years foreman of the Northern Railway Locomotive works, in this city, presented him with a handsome gold watch, chain and pendant, on the occasion of his resignation of that position. The presentation was made at the rooms of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Accompanying the present was a beautifully illuminated address on parchment. Mr. Thornton suitably thanked the donors for the expression of their kindly feelings towards him. At the conclusion of the presentation, the company adjourned to Thomas' Chop House, where a pleasant social time was spent.

MR. ANTHONY GILLIS (successor to T. Robinson), fashionable hair dresser, &c., 12 Queen street west, has just enlarged his shop and renovated it thoroughly, by painting and papering it. It is now one of the neatest barber shops of the size in the city. Mr. Gillis is himself a superior workman, and, with his able assistant, he is now in a position to wait upon his numerous customers and the public at all hours, with promptness, guaranteeing entire satisfaction. We recommend our readers to give Mr. Gillis a share of their custom, as he is a worthy young man, and recently established himself in business in Toronto.

For Cards, Bill-heads, or Posters, go to the WORKMAN Office, 124 Bay street.