

NOTICE.

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

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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All communications should be addressed to the Office, 112 Bay Street, or to Post Office Box 1025. J. S. WILLIAMS, SUPERINTENDENT.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CENTRAL DIVISION OF THE CITY OF TORONTO.

A large and influential deputation of citizens having informed me of my nomination as a candidate to represent you in the House of Commons, I have the honor to accept that nomination, and therefore ask for your support, having confidence that the electors of Centre Toronto will endorse the request of the deputation by placing me at the head of the poll.

Trades' Assembly Hall.

- Meetings are held in the following order:—
Machinists and Blacksmiths, every Monday.
Cobblers, 2nd and 4th Monday.
Crispins, (159), 1st and 3rd Tuesday.
K.O.S.C. Lodge 316, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.
Tinsmiths, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.
Cigar Makers, 2nd and 4th Wednesday.
Varnishers and Polishers, 1st and 3rd Wednesday.
Iron Moulders, every Thursday.
Plasterers, 1st and 3rd Thursday.
Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday.
Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Friday.
Coppers, 2nd and 4th Friday.
Printers, 1st Saturday.
Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

The Ontario Workman.

The WORKMAN makes its appearance somewhat earlier this week than usual, and we wish to say a few words to our readers in Centre Toronto, in reference to the necessity of unity of action today (Wednesday). Upon this division all eyes are now directed, and upon the working classes very much depends as to the result. Victory has perched upon their banners in the East and West, but the consummation of the grand success remains to be achieved in the Centre. But the work before them must not be despised. We certainly believe that the chances of success are all in favor of Mr. Shanly, but the victories already gained must inspire a feeling of solidarity and security among workingmen. Work is before them, and hard work, but in the same enthusiasm and determination to win, be carried into the Centre. As has been manifested in the East and West, but little doubt can be entertained of the result. We feel the issue is fairly before the operators.

classes, and that no urging is needed upon our part to arouse them to their duty. Were anything needed the most effectual means would be by referring to the article in the "Globe" of Monday last, and pointing to the terms in which they are there spoken of.

Let it be seen that, as in Hamilton, and in East and West Toronto, so in Centre Toronto, the workingmen are fully alive to the importance of the occasion, and are determined to "go in and win."

BROWN AS AN ARTIST.

George Brown, finding that his efforts to play the role of champion to the workmen have not been appreciated, has taken another cue—ono, perhaps, more suited to his genius—and the "paint pots" have been resorted to. But whether as an artist he will prove more successful than in his previous character, we shall leave our readers to decide. It having been announced that on Friday night last, Mr. Witton, the "Representative Workingman," would be present from Hamilton, to speak to his fellow-workers of Toronto, it was deemed right and proper that a fitting expression should be given of the feeling with which that gentleman is regarded, and the result was, that the working classes turned out in their thousands, an appropriate transparency was provided, and Mr. Witton and the gentlemen who accompanied him, were escorted to the Market Square with all the eclat of a well arranged torch-light procession. And this is the scene which the embryo artist has undertaken to sketch; and those who were present on that occasion must certainly be impressed with the accuracy and faithfulness with which the scene has been reproduced in the columns of the "Globe" of Monday! If, however, objection should be made that the coloring is somewhat more sombre than occasion required, it must not be forgotten that "black" is a very favorite color with the artist in question, and after a long apprenticeship in the art of "blackening the characters" of those opposed to him, politically or otherwise, he must now certainly be prepared to graduate as a "journeyman of the first water" in that particular line of business. As a specimen of his proficiency, we shall content ourselves with reproducing two or three sentences which fairly represent the tone of the entire article that occupies a full column in that journal, and we expect the intelligent workmen of this city will recognize and acknowledge the figure they cut on their homeward "march to Finchly"—as the "Globe" has it—on Friday night last.

"Sir John Falstaff's celebrated" regiment of "tattered prodigals" had not so many hard-featured cases among them; and surely the Prime Minister acted a part not to be admired by his sober supporters, as he shouted and cheered and "tigered" among that very motley and most undisciplined crew. We shall not say that they had only "a shirt and a half among them," or that they had plundered the scare-crows of half a county. It was not their clothes, but their bearing, their looks, their unredeemed hard-faceness, and their fantastic efforts at getting up a show by poking some smoky lamps in the face of the glorious full moon as she shone in a clear Canadian sky, that gave the whole such an air of ludicrous absurdity and broken-down blackguardism which the central figure in the not very magnificent cut fitly crowned and completed.

G. T. R. EMPLOYEE'S PIC-NIC.

The employees of the Grand Trunk Railway intend holding their annual picnic on Saturday next, 24th instant, at Bowmanville. A most elaborate programme of games and dances has been arranged, and everything promises the utmost success. There will, undoubtedly, be a very large gathering, and we wish them every possible pleasure. The cars will leave the Union Station at 6.30 a.m., and return in the evening.

LABOR AND CAPITAL.

The adjustment of labor and capital is one of the pressing questions of the age, now arresting public attention more than ever. No question in political economy touches the masses so broadly through the civilized world. The difficulty involved cannot be adjusted by force, as has been vainly attempted in some European countries, nor by money or numbers. It will nowhere stay settled till it is settled rightly on a basis which, in the long run and on a broad scale, will secure the highest interests of both parties. Everything possible should be done to ameliorate the condition of the operative, hard at best.

Labor is both superior and prior to capital, and alone originally produces capital. But the condition and opportunities of the laborer improve with the increase of industrial capital, which always befriends labor when it multiplies the opportunities for education and profitable employment. Parisian Internationals denounced capital as the enemy of labor, but in the same breath they boasted that it was the unaided product of labor, and therefore rightly belonging to its producers, whoever may be the legal owners. It is a striking fact that in Paris itself, not long after this International proclamation, nothing but the capital thus attacked kept its assailants from starvation during the siege when production ceased. If capital were to be annihilated to-morrow, labor would suffer first and most. Capital and labor, therefore, are not enemies. There is only an apparent opposition of interests, which vanishes on a careful examination. Instead of open strikes or smothered jealousies, dissolving all social ties, there should be kindness and sympathy between the employer and the employed. There should be no impassable gulf between the rich and the poor; no tyranny of capital. The capitalist should fully know the wants and trials of the laborer's lot, and the workman should understand the risks, anxieties and conditions of success on the part of the manufacturer. There should be liberal pay on the one side, and fair profits on the other. The interests of both classes are bound together. If either one is harmed, the other must ultimately suffer. Certainly the laborer cannot long suffer in health, education or pay, without harm to the employers, and large losses to the operatives. They are copartners, and cannot afford to be antagonists. Capital is as dependent on labor as labor is on capital, and only as both work in harmony can the highest good of each be secured. There is need of mutual consideration after mutual concession. Wages no doubt have been too low, and have been deservedly raised.

Mr. G. B. Northrop, a gentleman of large experience as supervisor of the schooling of minors employed in factories, and whose sympathies are with the working classes, illustrates this principle by citing the following facts, which have come under his own observation in Connecticut. He says:—

"In many of our manufacturing villages, employers have allayed prejudice and disarmed hostility by a liberal policy. As enlightened, liberal, philanthropic men, they have generally aided both the school and the church, provided reading-rooms and lectures for the special benefit of their operatives, and erected boarding and tenement houses in a style favorable for their health and comfort. They have encouraged the purchase of homesteads or erection of homes, by selling the land and loaning a large percentage of the cost of the building on favorable terms. There are many thriving manufacturing villages in Connecticut where a strike, or anything like antagonism of labor to capital, has never been known. Instead of isolating themselves from their operatives, these capitalists have treated themselves as partners, and in effect, with them, guarded their health, provided for their material comfort, and intellectual and moral welfare. They have foregone of Connecticut, Jewell, English, and Buckingham, and extensive manufacturing establishments, and have secured a high degree of prosperity and contentment on the part of their operatives."

manufacturers, have each illustrated the wisdom of a liberal policy toward their employees. The harmony and good-will thus secured have proved an important part of their effective capital. I have had occasion to know that their workmen feel a pride in their service, and a genuine interest in their success. When all manufacturers feel it to be their duty and interest to show like sympathy and interest towards their employees, the problem of harmonizing labor and capital will be solved."

SELF-DEPENDENCE.

No alliance with others can ever diminish the necessity for personal endeavor. Friends may counsel, but the ultimate decision in every case is individual. As each tree, though growing in the same soil, watered by the same rains, and warmed by the same sun as many others, obeys its own law of growth, preserves its own physical structure, and produces its own peculiar fruit, so each person, though in the closest communication and intercourse with each other, and surrounded by similar influences, must be himself, must do his own duties, contest his own struggles, resist his own temptations, and suffer his own penalties. There is too much dependence placed upon co-operation for security from evil, and too little reliance upon personal watchfulness and exertion. There are some who seem to feel in a great measure released from obligation if they do not receive such aid, and some will plead the shortcomings of others as excuse for their own.

We would by no means disparage the effect of influence, or discourage in the slightest the generous assistance which we all owe to one another, or undervalue the important effect of a worthy example. These are vital elements of growth, and their results can never be fully estimated. But they should not usurp the place of a proper self reliance, and diminish the exercise of individual powers. Moral force must be a personal possession. It can never be transferred, and while we gladly welcome whatever is good from all sources, it can only be as food which must be digested before it can truly nourish us. Material benefits may be conferred by simple gift, but mental and moral activities can only be sustained by their own exercise. Thoughts may be exchanged, but not thought power; moral help and encouragement may be given; but virtue cannot be transferred; responsibility cannot be shifted.

The most permanent good we can do to others is to nourish this individual strength. To aid the physically destitute most effectively food, fuel and clothing, are not nearly so valuable as steady remunerative employment. To educate a child, it is not half so important to install large amounts of information, as to set his mind to work, to bring out his mental powers, to stimulate his thoughts and quicken his faculties. And in moral life, especially in cities, where masses are crowded together, and men incline to leap upon each other, the best lesson to enforce is, that virtue to exist at all, must be strictly individual.

That which cannot stand alone, but depends on props and supports, which needs the constant spur of fear, and the bribe of reward to ensure its activity, is but the semblance of virtue, and will crumble before temptation. A well-developed body ever excites admiration. But a well-developed and self-reliant spirit is a nobler thing. It is calm, modest and unassuming, yet firm in conscious integrity of purpose and steadiness of aim. Inflated by no vanity, it is at once humble, yet courageous; helpful to the tempted, yet resolute in assailing evil.

THE SEAT OF THE NEW WAR.

The cable informs us that the Khedive of Egypt has sent a column of 3,000 men to invade Abyssinia. The war, it is said, is now being fought in the interior of the country, and the number of traders is reported to be in a great measure exterminated. The Khedive's expedition started from the Nile, and is now in the interior of the country. It is said that the Emperor is on his way to meet the invaders. Magdala is said to have fallen into their hands. Abyssinia has been in a chronic state of anarchy for ages. The unfortunate Theodore was the first ruler who tried to impress any sense of the power of the central authority over the local rulers, and then it was only with infinite wars and struggles. The Government is hereditary—a descendent of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba always sitting on the throne. The Emperor receives only the modest salary of \$300 a year, and the late Emperor employed his leisure in making parasols. We believe Kissai follows the same calling when he has no war on hand. The chief divisions of the Empire are Shoa, Ambara and Tigre. Between the two latter a continual war has been kept up for a century without the Emperor being able to put a stop to it.

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Abyssinia is a country full of traditions and full of superstitions. The Abyssinian Church is nominally Christian. Its doctrine is the monophysite heresy—that is, that Jesus Christ had but one nature, the divine, which served Him as a human soul. The people are generally thought to be cruel, treacherous and depraved. The mutilation of the dead in war and the burying of fever patients while still alive is a strong confirmation of the first charge. All barbarous people are treacherous with foreigners, however plain dealing with natives, and in this the Abyssinians are no exception. The best observers agree in describing the bulk of the people, males as well as females, as reckless of the ordinary rules of sexual morality, and in many parts abandoned to the grossest sensuality. The population of the country, estimated at 160,000 square miles, is between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000. The temperature of Abyssinia is very temperate, the average temperature at Gondar, from October to April, as observed by Ruppel, varied in different years from 67 to 73 degrees Fahrenheit. June, July, August and September are the rainy seasons in most parts of this country, and in some parts of it during these months the rivers rise fifteen to twenty feet above their mean level.

History and tradition is full of accounts of the incursions of the Abyssinians into Egypt, and the conquests of the Egyptians in Abyssinia. The two countries have never been good neighbors. Many historians have thought that at least the rough model of the pyramid was obtained from ancient Abyssinia, or Ethiopia, as the Greeks called it; but it was so improved in the taking, if so, as to be almost unrecognizable. Why the Khedive wishes to fight now, and what his object further than annexation without a cause, is not apparent. He doubtless hopes to find the Emperor unprepared, to fall upon the portions of his dominions bordering upon his own, and add it to them without much trouble. Certainly his army is better officered and better disciplined than that of his enemy, and he probably will succeed in his undertaking.

TOO MANY MIDDLEMEN.

An evil and burden which has fastened itself upon trade the world over, but more especially, perhaps, on this continent, is the presence of too many middlemen. We are not about to deny the general utility of this class of traders, for they are a necessary link between the producer and the consumer. But in Canada a remarkable fascination seems to have surrounded the position of a middleman in the eyes of very many persons in the country, which tends neither to their advantage nor the general good. To be a producer is too commonly contemned as a humble and lowly employment, and unattractive in respect to profit. Very often we are shown how delusive is this notion. The undue crowding of the ranks of buyers and sellers seems to be the root from which have sprung the greatest abuses that now cling to the business of the country. Could the number of traders be kept in exact proportion to the amount of trade, the home, we should hear little of both bankruptcies, abscondings and fraud. When one enters a line of trade, he must live by it. It is not easy to deceive it. He must make out his living in some way. If he has undertaken to sell goods