

of the labor of those already skilled. This, as will be observed, is the very worse kind of aristocracy, the desire being to keep the many in ignorance for the exclusive benefit of the few. A resolution deprecating the "spoils system," and demanding that "all employes of the government be hired on their respective merits," was exceedingly inconsistent. Labor organizations when dealing with private individuals employing labor insist that employes be not "hired on their respective merits," but taken on compulsion on terms that give the same wages to slouches and jacklegs as are given to the best mechanics. But consistency is not insisted on nor observed on such occasions. A protest was entered against government employes being allowed to work for private individuals because their doing so would be "competing in the labor market" is another blow at poor men who would supplement their income by doing odd jobs in spare hours.

Considering the almost innumerable demands the congress made upon the government to intervene in almost every possible transaction that can occur between employers and their enemies and oppressors, the employers, one might suppose that they were no more competent to manage even the commonest affairs of every day life than a parcel of suckling children. Their ideas of manhood seem rather to lean in the direction of revolution, anarchy, and nihilism. The working men as a class are all right, and if they would discern between the brainy men among them, whose advice is good and should be followed, and the jawsmiths who force themselves upon their attention, and who try to create the belief that braying is argument, they would be much more likely to obtain the reforms they need.

NEWBURGH, ONT.

THE fire which devastated the town of Newburgh, Ont. just a month ago did not spare a single place of business except the few factories located there. Newburgh is situated on the Napanee river, seven miles north-east of the town of Napanee. Just above the town the river divides into two streams, which are again united just below the town. There is also a canal extending along one side of the island. The Napanee river at this place affords a most valuable aggregation of water power, and there are no fewer than sixteen good water privileges available. One and a half miles further up stream is a saw mill, a grist mill, and Thompson's paper mill. In Newburgh is another paper mill; and less than two miles down stream is still another paper mill, owned by the Napanee Paper Mills Company. Several of the best of the water privileges here alluded to are now offered for sale at very low prices. One, at the lower end of the island, has three large stone buildings standing upon it, and it possesses all the water power in both branches of the river. The Napanee, Tamworth and Quebec Railway, controlled by the Rathbun Company, of Deseronto, passes within a few yards of the river and quite through the town of Newburgh, and connects with the Grand Trunk Road at that place. Ultimately this road will also connect with the Canadian Pacific Road. Already many new buildings are being erected in the town, and, Phoenix like, it is rapidly arising from its ashes. We have given this brief sketch of Newburgh and its surroundings with a view to bringing its

advantages as a manufacturing point to the attention of those proposing investments in that direction. The local authorities and the people generally are prepared to offer the most liberal terms to any who may desire to avail themselves of the fine natural and other advantages of the place.

JUSTICE VS. TYRANNY.

A CASE growing out of the labor troubles in New York last Spring was decided in Judge Barrett's court in that city last week which brings into strong contrast the ethics of justice as against the ethics of tyranny. Judge Barrett's decision fixes a distinct and well defined limit to the rights of organized labor, and sets forth the character of the offence in law when those rights are overstepped. The facts of the case are that the workmen in a shoe factory were ordered out because the firm refused to discharge a trusted and competent foreman who was not a knight; and that a non-union foreman had discharged a workman who was a knight, for dishonesty, the firm refusing to take back the dishonest knight and discharge the non-union foreman on the demand of the Knights of Labor. In this latter case the firm, after having their factory closed for a month, gave in and informed their old foreman that he would have to go. The man then obtained a job in Baltimore, but was driven from there also, and has been out of employment ever since. The firm first alluded to, representing the shoe manufacturers of the city generally, caused the arrest of the committee of knights who had interfered with their business, and these were all placed under bonds for their appearance at court except their chief, who preferred to go to prison where he remained long enough for his lawyers to institute habeas corpus proceedings, upon which the test case just decided by Judge Barrett was based. His lawyers urged on his behalf that the law justified all that the knights had done when it exempted strikes from the list of misdemeanors. The Judge, however, took an opposite view, and stated that the law applied only to strikes for wages, and that the offence charged was not of this description. He said that if what the knights claimed was tenable, labor organizations rather than the courts would be the judges of violations of the law, and there would be danger of their using the law, as they had attempted to do in this case, as a cloak to cover their vindictive designs. It was not the intent of legislation to turn an engine of protection into one of oppression. The offence in this case was intended not only as an injury to trade, but as a preventive against the exercise of his lawful calling by a citizen, and that the offence complained of was an unlawful conspiracy.

The case of Buscombe in Hamilton is an almost exact parallel, for according to the decision of the New York Judge the man Gibson and the balance of the committee of the Labor Union, of which he was chief spokesman, who went before the authorities and demanded the discharge of Buscombe, were guilty of conspiracy, and should be treated as conspirators. The law clearly acknowledges the right of workmen to strike and quit work when they see proper, but it does not countenance or permit the strikers or any acting for them to conspire to drive other workmen from their occupation merely because they are obnoxious to them.