

and, if I am not mistaken, they were deficient in funds, and it is right to tell that gentleman that the Labourers' Union is not. Now, what I want to say in this country is this, that the farm-labourer, instead of being a forced burden upon the taxation of the country and on the pockets of the people, should be allowed to make his way for himself by being put in a position to do it. (Applause.) When a man has three or four acres of land, I ask how many of such men, when they come to the downhill of life, will become chargeable on the parish? How many will want to go to the parish doctor? Farm-labourers with three or four acres of land would scorn the action of becoming paupers. (Applause.) You would do the same as I did to the parish doctor when he came into my home and wanted to cut my children for the cow-pox, and I quickly showed him the door. Let the labourer have three or four acres of land, and he will not be a pauper. I appeal to every honest son here, whether he would under these circumstances be summoned before the Board of Guardians to pay 1s. a-week for his poor father or mother in the Union Workhouse if he had three or four acres of land to cultivate. (No, no.) If my plan were carried out, you would not have 5 per cent. of the poor agricultural labourers' parents in the Union you have now. They would teach themselves to love them and to take care of them. Mr. ARCH concluded his speech with expressing the obligations of the Labourers' Union to the Trades Societies, and with this statement: "I tell my opponents that while I can raise my voice and there is a single link of slavery left upon any single agricultural labourer in England, I will agitate this question until they are free."

The following resolution was then carried by acclamation:—"This meeting desires to congratulate Mr. ARCH on his mission to Canada; and, seeing that emigration has become a necessity to the labouring classes as a means of advancing their interest, this meeting is pleased to know that the Government of the Dominion of Canada is prepared to bring the matter to a practical issue by co-operating with the National Agricultural Labourers' Union."

Some discussion took place afterwards as to the winter in Canada, in the course of which Mr. ARCH said: "I tell you that I have seen men, my own school-fellows, who have been eighteen, nineteen, and twenty years in Canada, and they tell me that they like the winters of Canada better than the winters of England; and I say that any man with the will to work has no need to feel the winters of Canada more than those of England. I have not been in Canada during the winter, but I have been with truthful men, who have made the closest inquiries into the matter, and I am perfectly satisfied on the subject." (Applause.)