

WATER COMMISSIONER!

TO THE ELECTORS

OF THE

Eastern Division of the
City of Toronto.

I have consented to offer myself as one of your Water Commissioners, and I do so, knowing the desirability of having the work so completed as not only to be a present benefit, but to be of service to the city for years to come. I have hitherto refused to come forward for municipal or other honours at your hands (knowing that my own comfort and interests were best served by so doing,) but as a number of the most influential ratepayers having given me to understand (that if I continue to refuse) I should be wanting in gratitude to my fellow citizens amongst whom I have resided the most of my life, I shall leave the matter in your hands, with the strict determination that should I be elected, so far as my judgment is concerned, all matters connected with the Water Works Commission shall be for your benefit.

I would also state that although the office is one of emolument, it is my intention, if elected, to return the same for the benefit of the charitable institutions of this city, less my actual expenses connected with the office.

Your obedient servant,

SAMUEL PLATT.

Toronto, June 19th, 1872.

TO THE ELECTORS

OF THE

EASTERN DIVISION
OF THE CITY OF TORONTO.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to announce that I intend to be a Candidate for the House of Commons, in the above Division, at the coming General Election for the Dominion Parliament.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES BEATY.

Toronto, 24th June, 1872.

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(INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.)

Per Annum	\$2 00
6 Months	1 00
Single copies	5c

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

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J. S. WILLIAMS,
SUPERINTENDENT.

The Ontario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1872.

WATER WORKS COMMISSIONERS

To-morrow, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., will be settled one of the most important questions that has come before our citizens for many years past.

The candidates in the field for Water Commissioners number over a dozen, out of whom but four will be selected. In this matter the *Globe* and *Mail* have joined hands in bringing forward four gentlemen whom they are pleased to designate as the Citizen's Union Ticket, and in the hands of these four alone—according to the journals referred to—can this new and most important municipal undertaking be entrusted with safety. The chief recommendation of these four candidates appears to be that they are possessed of a large amount of this world's goods, and therefore, *par excellence*, they are the men for Water Commissioners. Whether the electors are of this opinion, however, is altogether another thing; and to-morrow will tell whether the ratepayers cannot place positions of trust in the hands of men of proved integrity and business talents, who may happen to be less wealthy than their fellows.

To select from we have such men as John Worthington, Samuel Platt, Mr.

Shea, Ald. Bell, F. H. Metcalf, Wm. Paterson, John Greenlees, and Mr. Capreol.

It will not be necessary for us here to enter into minute details of the characters of these candidates—their record is before the people. Many of them have devoted perhaps the best years of their lives to the interest and improvement of the city, and now that it is in the power of the people, they ought to show, by electing men of practical experience, that they can appreciate the long life service they have given for the advancement and development of our city and country. And we think it will be a fact of great significance with the working classes, that some of these candidates, after occupying positions of the highest trust, are not now possessed of that "affluence"—which is so much thought of by some of our contemporaries—thereby proving conclusively that those positions were not used for their own aggrandizement, but for the prosperity of the people.

We are told that the post of Water Commissioner should not be regarded so much as one of emolument as one of honor, and "the very last thing to be tolerated is the election of men who want to recuperate their fortunes at the public expense." If this means anything at all, it means any candidate not possessing a competency is open to the suspicion of wanting to recuperate his fortunes at the public expense—a gratuitous insult to the working classes of this city we are convinced they will not fail to remember at the polls to-morrow.

Now, it will be absolutely necessary for the working classes, if they wish to prove their strength, to be thoroughly united upon the men of their choice, and every man should make up his mind to vote, and vote early.

HINTS TO WORKINGMEN.

In England, no matter what city you enter there is one great central point of attraction to which all sightseers tend. Its cathedrals may be hoary with age and glittering with a host of historic names. Its theatres may be temples of modern architecture and scenes of histrionic fame, but they pale their lights before the Museum of the town; for numbers that eschew either place unite in flocking to it—for there sermons are taught more effectively than in a bishop's chair, and more potent appeals made to human nature and its sympathies than the greatest actors can ever draw. Museums are a necessity to every place where parents desire the education of themselves and their children to extend beyond the province of their home, and through the works of Nature raise their children's mind from Nature up to Nature's God.

There is not a provincial town in Canada that need be—within five years from the present date, if the working men are earnest and active in their own behalf—destitute of this great educational agent of modern times. Let the town councils see that the workingmen have the wherewith to form the nucleus of a museum; and a room will soon be found to deposit it in. The art of bird and animal stuffing is not hard to acquire; and any mechanic can make a cheap and tasty case. Let the workingmen put their heads together and try to get as many varied specimens of birds and animals as they can. We have no doubt that farmers, sportsmen, and others, when they know the object the workingmen have in view, but what will assist them to the best of their abilities to obtain specimens. Many of our enthusiastic Isaac Waltons could obtain different kinds of fish for the same purpose; while the beautiful and varied species of butterflies, moths, and other winged insects need only the trouble of capture to reward the naturalist for his pains. There are also many different species of plants and trees that could be obtained for the asking; and if choice pieces were selected, planed smooth and varnished to show the grain, the texture and colour of the wood, they would amply repay those who took the trouble to prepare them in

the pleasure and instruction they would give to all who saw them. Our amateur geologists could also assist by obtaining different specimens of the stones, rocks and fossils in the neighborhood. Thus our children, by seeing the things they are taught, would acquire more easily and more thoroughly a knowledge of the beauties of Nature that surround us on every hand than by a hundred lectures without the articles actually before them. Aquarists with artificial tanks, containing different varieties of the beautiful and graceful ferns could also easily be made; and in the love these pure and graceful forms would unconsciously create in the human mind, we should all be the gainers; for it is an ignorance of the beauties and the charms of natural objects that compels many minds to seek in the excitement of the billiard table and the saloon a change from the tiresome monotony of daily toil.

If the workingmen of Canada wish to improve the minds of themselves and their children, to elevate their characters and enlarge their understandings, it is imperative that they should bestir themselves. Self-help is the best help. Government will give them no sop. Rings and coteries are indifferent to them. Co-operation among themselves is the only agent that can be effectually used—if theirs the trouble theirs also the credit. Start the movement, and when it is seen they have obtained among themselves a good nucleus to form the groundwork of a museum, plenty will come forward with their donations to assist in making it worthy of the district in which they may live.

The study of natural objects is an unfailing source of purest pleasure; the mind and soul unconsciously expands and grows tender. He who loves the flowers or the birds will seldom be either a drunkard or a cutthroat, and if in children is inculcated a love for the beautiful, you will have sown the germs of the good.

Workingmen of Canada, carry out the suggestions we have made; it will enlarge your nobler faculties to pursue the objects you seek; it will give your children a better insight to the wondrous charms of nature than you perhaps possess; and it will prove a beneficial change from the monotony of life at present; and it will be a source of increasing attraction to every one that visits your town.—Com.

MEETINGS OF ELECTORS.

Straws show which way the wind blows. The Citizen's Union Ticket—so called—have called together their supporters, but at what hour? At four o'clock in the afternoon, when it is a moral impossibility for the operative classes to get a shadow of chance of being present to have a voice. Of course this is just the hour to suit our men of means, who are thus kind enough to relieve the hard-wrought working classes of the trouble and annoyance of electioneering, and have unselfishly taken upon themselves the responsibility of electing suitable persons to fill the positions of Water Works Commissioners. We wonder whether the workingmen of this city will appreciate such disinterested kindness! On the other hand, what has been the course of workingmen themselves? Meetings have been called at hours when it would be convenient for all to attend, and the invitation has been left open to all the candidates who might choose to be present, whether of the famous Union Ticket or otherwise.

T. C. O. P. A.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Co-operative Printing Association will be held on Tuesday evening next, and it is hoped that all will attend.

TRADES' ASSEMBLY.

A full meeting of this body will be held on Friday evening next, at their hall, at the usual hour. It is important that all delegates should attend.

Mr. Paterson has withdrawn from the contest in the Western Division.

THE HAMILTON STANDARD AND THE WORKINGMEN.

Early in the progress of the Nine Hour Movement a certain sheet, published in Hamilton, called the *Standard*, came out in warm support of the Short Time Principle—in fact, was looked upon as the champion of workingmen's rights, not only in that section of the country, but, at the time, the only supporter of labor reform in Ontario. This, in the first place, unsolicited support on the part of the editor of that paper, was very soon noticed and warmly appreciated by the workmen of Hamilton, and in a very short time the *Standard* had secured a larger circulation than any of her city contemporaries, and might have kept its vantage ground, had the proprietor stamina or ability to persevere in the cause he had voluntarily taken. But, alas! few individuals do anything without a motive; and the mercenary disposition of the *Standard* gentleman has been made very apparent to the workingmen of Hamilton lately, and proves to be a demonstration that only in themselves can they place trust. Too long have the laborers of the world been the step-ladders to fame and emolument to designing and unprincipled men; but in this instance the man in question, though sufficiently mean, had not brains enough to use the working classes at sufficient length to give him a competency; and now the proprietor of the *Standard* finds himself no longer in the possession of the confidence of the class from whom he derived his main support in the past, and the subsidies that bought him will soon cease, when the influence that brought them has ceased to be dreaded by the monied classes.

We are happy to notice that the workingmen of Hamilton have got their eyes open and are bound to support their own paper under the laborers' own control, as the only source upon which they can depend, knowing that our interests will not be sold for a mess of pottage; and we promise to use all our endeavors to meet all the wants of our fellow workmen of Hamilton and elsewhere, so far as it can be done by a weekly journal, and invite all to assist us by taking possession of a goodly share of our columns for correspondence.

WATER COMMISSIONERS.

EASTERN DIVISION.

Mr. Metcalf and Mr. Platt appear to be the favorite candidates with the masses for the Eastern Division. Let their friends rally round them, and secure their election.

WESTERN DIVISION.

Ald. Bell is in high favor with the working classes, and his prospects of election are encouraging. Mr. Worthington is also popular, and will undoubtedly poll a large vote. Let their friends be early at the polls.

THE LONDON BUILDERS' STRIKE.

London papers give a review of the great strike of the London building trade, demonstrating that it is the result of twenty years of agitation. In 1858 a demand was made by the men for a reduction in the hours of labor from ten hours a day. In 1859 a memorial, numerously signed, was presented to the masters, a short struggle ensued and the masters obtained a victory. George Potter then appeared on the scene to lead the men. He commenced agitating, and was successful in country towns, and formed trade unions. Successive steps of the union down to the present strike are then traced. Interviews with masons are given. They said that in 1850 wages were five shillings per day, in 1860 six pence more, in 1861 seven pence per hour, in 1865 eight pence an hour. The reasons given for the strike are the dear rate of living in London, and the long distance to out of door jobs to which they were obliged to walk in their own time. There is no fear of men being brought from the country as they are better off there. Two-thirds of the masons society men are sanguine of success. Financially they are strong, being helped by

other trades. Nine hours a day and nine pence per hour has been determined on, and there will be no surrender.

THE SHANNONVILLE TRAGEDY.

On Saturday morning last, one of the most terrible and destructive railway accidents that have ever occurred in this country, took place on the Grand R. R. near Shannonville, resulting in a loss of human life that is awful to contemplate. In the middle of the night, without a moment's warning of their fate, twelve beings were hurried into eternity, and sixty others dreadfully wounded and maimed and scalded. Up to present writing the number of victims have reached forty-six, and it is expected that others of the wounded will succumb to their dreadful sufferings.

WORKINGMEN'S PIC-NIC.

The monster pic-nic under the auspices of the Trades' Assembly promises to be one of magnificent proportions. Efforts are being made to render it the most successful pic-nic ever held. Nothing will be left undone by the efficient committee to advance the interest and pleasure of those who attend. Prizes to a very large amount have been subscribed, and will be awarded to successful competitors.

PRESENTATION.

An affair of a pleasing nature came off recently, when Mrs. Benson, of 129 Victoria street, was presented with an address and a very handsome morocco workbox, with name engraved on the gift. The address was read by Mr. John Walker on behalf of the committee of Messrs. Campbell & Freeman, in recognition of her kind care and attention of a member of the Coachmaker's Union during an illness of nine weeks. Such acts as those tend to bind the bonds of brotherly love firmer together.

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

The committee on manufacturing interests have examined the answers received to the questions sent out, which they find to be as follows:

There have been 212 answers received to questions sent out, giving statistics of 662 manufacturing firms. The total amount of capital invested in these establishments is giving at \$31,900,323; and 37,010 hands are employed therein. 153 say they are able successfully to compete with foreign manufactured goods, and 78 say they are not; 167 say their business has been generally of a profitable character, and 35 say theirs had not been generally profitable; 125 say an increased duty on goods, such as they manufacture, would stimulate the investment of capital in their business, and 61 say it would not; 73 say the increased investment would stimulate their trade so as to cause an over-production, and 116 say it would not; 49 say they export their own manufactures, 37 say they do not; 116 say the demand for their manufactures is equal to their means of production, and 69 say it is not. These answers came from the principle towns and cities in Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

The New Haven Union says: The great object of the labor movement is to overthrow the rule of idleness, and we welcome to our ranks true men of all races or creeds. All men or women are welcome who are willing to earn the food they eat. Ours is no crusade against honestly earned capital, against any man's religion, against any human being's natural rights. We only recognize two classes—those who are willing to earn their own living, and those who are not. We denounce antagonism between man and man, the governing or the governed, employer or employed, brain-workers or body-workers, buyer or seller. We denounce antagonism between the man of one nation and the man of another nation. And we war against all systems which breed and foster such antagonism.

An eagle has been shot on the farm of Mr. Andrews, Southwold, which measures six feet from tip of one wing to the tip of the other.