

TRADE NOTES.

Society is barbarous until every industrious man can get his living without dishonest customs.—*Ralph W. Emerson.*

The late war did not abolish slavery; it simply changed its form, extended its jurisdiction and multiplied its victims.—*Chicago Express.*

Poverty is the great fact with which the labor movement deals. The problems that now most disturb and perplex mankind will be solved when the masses are no longer poor.—*Ira Steward.*

The United States troops are guarding 700 Chinese miners while the railroad corporation is engaged in starving an equal number of American citizens. This may be good law, but it is mighty poor policy.—*Craftsman.*

If Labor is to be told that penury is the necessary concomitant of civilization, let us not teach the wage-workers how to read. Acute intelligence, sharpened by despair, can soon find its way into the laboratory.—*R. J. Hinton.*

When the "sacredness of property" is talked of, it should always be remembered that any such sacredness does not belong to landed property. No man made the land. It is the original heritage of the whole people.—*John Stuart Mill.*

When a man is compelled to work from morning till night all the year round for a bare subsistence, is he not a slave? And when almost upon bended knee he begs his employer to give him work to keep soul and body together, is he not worse than a slave?—*Express.*

The condition of the working people of France is said to have gradually improved during the past seven years. If this is a fact, it is owing to the organization of labor, which is now going on rapidly, not only in France, but in other European countries.

The workmen of Richmond, Va., are forming a "Co-operative Manufacturing and Commercial Company," for the manufacture of all kinds of soap. The shares are \$10 each. As a nation's civilization is said to be gauged by the amount of soap used, we trust that our Richmond brothers will develop a high degree of civilization by enormous sales of their wares.—*Craftsman.*

There has been considerable discussion in the daily press the past week or so about the relations of capital and labor, and while labor is given a great deal of credit, still the burden seems to be that capital being the employer of labor should control. We would pertinently ask: Who and what is the creator of capital, and which should control, the creator or the created?—*Labor Tribune.*

We are not alone in this country in preparing for an eight hour movement. The operative masons of Edinburgh have notified the builders in that city, that on and after the 1st of May, 1886, it is the intention of the trade to work eight hours a day instead of nine hours. The reasons assigned for this step are the great producing power of machinery. A vote of the trade on the subject is said to have been almost unanimous.—*The Carpenter.*

It is a no less fatal error to despise labor, when regulated by intellect, than to value it for its own sake. We are always in these days trying to separate the two; we want one man to be always working, and we call one a gentleman and the other an operative, whereas the workman ought often to be thinking and the thinker often to be working, and both should be gentlemen in the best sense. As it is, we make both ugly, the one envying, the other despising his brother, and the mass of society is made up of morbid thinkers and miserable workers. Now, it is only by labor that thought can be made happy; and the profession should be liberal, and there should be less pride felt in peculiarity of employment, and more in excellence of achievement.

DICKENS ON LABOR.—Cant as we may, as we shall to the end of time; it is very much harder for the poor to be virtuous than it is for the rich, and the good that is in them shines the brighter for it.

In many a noble mansion lives a man, the best of husbands and of fathers, whose private worth in both capacities is justly lauded to the skies, but bring him here upon this crowded deck. Strip from his fair young wife her silken dress and jewels, unbind her braided hair, stamp early wrinkles on her brow, pinch her pale cheeks with care and much privation, array her faded form in coarsely patched attire, let there be nothing but his love to deck her out, and you shall put it to the proof indeed. So change his station in the world, that he shall see in those young things who climb about his knee, not records of his wealth and name, but little wrestlers with him for his daily bread, so many poachers on his scanty meal, so many units to divide his every comfort, and further reduce its small amount. In lieu of the endearments of childhood in its sweet aspect, heap upon him all its pains and wants, its sickness and ills, its fretfulness, caprice and querulous endurance, let its prattle be not of engaging infant fancies, but cold and thirst and hunger; and if his fatherly affection outlive all this, and he be patient, watchful, tender, careful of his children's lives and mindful always of their joys and sorrows, then send him back to Parliament, and pulpit, and Quarter Sessions, and when he hears fine talk of the depravity of those who live from hand to mouth, and labor hard to do it, let him speak up, as one who knows, and tell those holders forth that they, by parallel with such a class, should be high angels in their daily lives, and lay but humble siege to heaven at last.—*The Carpenter.*

A PUZZLE.

The following seventy-one letters from two lines of a poem, by Lord Tennyson:—

"And dew is cold upon the ground,
And the far off stream is 12, 51, 48, 41."
"Sweet it was to dream of 67, 20, 53, 41, 11, 58, 68, 35, 52, 29."
"Still on the tower 7, 62, 25, 59, 71, the vane."
"At eve the 49, 8, 45, 24, 17, 34, boometh
38, 61, 2, 60, 38, 5, 43, the thicket lone."
"33, 39, 66, 27, 11, 36, there would be spring no more.
"Your 19, 55, 23, 21, 61, 9, is the calmed sea.
Laid by the tumult of the fight."
"I 32, 28, 22, 42, not in any mood
The captive void of noble rage."
"10, 16, 50, often 65, 23, 30, 63, 51, 39, wandering down
My Arthur found your shadows fair."
"1, 31, 51, 19, 4, 37, 56, 40, 26, 70, 55, only, flowering thro' the year
would make the world as blank as winter-tide."
"And called him by his name, complaining 1, 5, 17, 59."
"She half foresaw that he the 7, 13, 15, 64, 17, 3, beast
would track her guilt."
"Moans of the dying and voices of the 18, 3, 57, 46."

J. M. F., Halifax.

THE CRITIC will be sent free for one year from date, to the person who first sends the correct answer to this office.

PROHIBITION vs. LICENSE.

We have decided to open our columns for a limited time to the discussion of the question of Prohibition vs. License, and have made arrangements with two representative writers to contribute each alternate week a communication upon the subject. We believe our readers will be interested in a fair and manly discussion of this burning question, and we trust the writers will deal with the subject in a manner becoming broad and liberal-minded men.

To the Editor of the Critic:—

SIR,—Sir Henry Thompson, M. D., F. R. S., said in a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury: "There is no single habit in this country which so much tends to deteriorate the qualities of the race and so much disqualifies for endurance in that competition which, in the nature of things must exist, and in which struggle the prize of superiority must fall to the best and to the strongest." I will add the testimony of Mr. Darwin, who says: "It is remarkable that all the diseases arising from drinking spirituous or fermented liquors are liable to become hereditary, even to the third generation, increasing, if the cause be continued, till the family becomes extinct." Statistics I have in abundance, from the most reliable sources, proving Lord Shaftesbury's statements to be rather under than over the truth, hence the Canadian press did justly in refusing to publish unreliable statements gotten up by small men on this subject to suit their own perverted tastes and inaccurate knowledge.

"Franc-Tireur" thinks that a law which allows a man to buy liquor in the original package and use it in his own house, "discriminates against the poor man and favors the tolerably well off." In reply I have to say that, inasmuch as liquor is the poor man's worst enemy, the discrimination is good and morally healthful, is a blessing to the poor, while prohibitionists intend to continue their work until the whole business of production and sale for beverage purposes is crushed out, and both rich and poor rejoice together at the total destruction of the whole criminal business, as is already substantially the case in Maine and many other places.

I am tolerably familiar with the views which have been published by the best philologists on the wine question during the past forty years, and have about all that is worth reading upon that subject on both sides in my library, and I am forced to say that your correspondent's remarks indicate, at least a want of familiarity with the present position of that controversy, and are only calculated to excite a smile on the face of any who are informed upon the subject. After making so many unsupported assertions upon the subject, his demand that I should set about proving a negative is quite laughable and a new doctrine in polonic disputation, what others may have asserted is not binding upon me. I will, however, make some assertions on the Bible wine question before we get through, and will back them with sufficient proof to successfully maintain them against objectors, I think.

THE HIGH LICENSE SYSTEM, so far from "making steady progress in the States," just the reverse is the truth; as I will abundantly prove. It does not even diminish the number of saloons as alleged, and even in the few localities where it did so for a short time, the lesser number of shops sold fully as much as the larger number had previously done, and in some cases more. All friends of law and order who favored the system in the outset, soon became disgusted with it. It operated much as did the English "beer bill," and is pronounced the most disastrous legislation ever attempted on the liquor traffic. Your correspondent will find all the facts and experience against him if he undertakes a defence of high license, besides the *dens* increase under the system. As they become the best customers of the high license shops, the proprietors of the latter will not complain of their illegal sale, while temperance people know that to enforce the law only puts the business into the hands of those licensed. It creates a monopoly, that's all, and legalizes a crime.

The foregoing is a portion of my last letter which should have appeared before.

With reference to the information taken from the *World*, and corroborated by a Correspondent of *Harper's Weekly*, I say most posi-