

MONTREAL NEWS.

The body of William Burke, carter, living in St. Henri, and driving for Mr. Ricard, a master carter, of Bonaventure Station stand, was found beside the Grand Trunk track near Lachine, on Wednesday morning. On Tuesday night he put up his horse as usual at the stable on Mountain street, and was not seen alive after. It is thought that he went out on the western train, intending to get off at St. Henri, but being carried past he jumped off where he met his death. He fell on the opposite track, striking his head on the rails. Stunned by the blow, he lay there until the down train passed over him, cutting off both his legs. The body was brought in to the morgue, and the Coroner held an inquest at which a verdict of accidental death was returned.

On the occasion of his leaving this country to reside in England, Brother Tarte, late recording secretary of L. A. 7628, was the recipient of a very flattering testimonial from his assembly as an acknowledgment of services rendered and his popularity in the order. The presentation was in the form of a silver wa h, handsomely engraved with the seal of his local and great seal of the order of the Knights of Labor, accompanied by a neat address, in which his associates spoke of his services to the order with gratitude. The gift, a justly deserved one, was highly appreciated by Mr. Tarte. This shows that the boys of River Front do not forget their friends.

ECHOES FROM THE POINT.

The night schools are being largely attended in this district.

"Christmas is coming, and we're on short time," is the oft heard remark out here.

What's the matter with the Duffers tackling hockey. It's as easy as lacrosse and nearly as exciting. Sure.

THE ECHO is the best advertising medium in circulation at the Point. The merchants should take note of this when advertising their Christmas wares.

The subway is at last completed and has been opened for traffic. It is a great improvement and will no doubt tend to increase the value of property in the Point.

The congregation of St. Matthews Church will, no doubt, soon have the pleasure of holding service in their splendid new edifice, which is a credit to them and an ornament to Point St. Charles.

The regular weekly tramp of the Argyles took place last evening and a large number of members took advantage of the first snow and tried on their snowshoes. A pleasant evening was spent on arrival at the Club House.

When! O when! are the City Council to provide St. Gabriel with a respectable fire and police station. This will be something for the new representative of St. Gabriel to look after when he is elected. Point St. Charles would do nicely with a new one on Centre street, too.

The Grand Trunk Co are erecting a handsome new and cozy little station at the crossing of Wellington street for the benefit of this rapidly increasing district. It is a long felt want and will be highly appreciated by the people. It will be a regular stopping station for all trains—ingoing and outgoing.

The Grand Trunk Club are to reproduce "A Life's Revenge" in the Queen's Hall on Tuesday. The club will have the assistance of Mr. M. Rowan, who will take the part which Mr. Jos. Ward appeared in at the last performance. The McGill students will also be present. It is for the benefit of the General Hospital.

The success of their maiden effort has prompted the Burton Dramatic Club to again produce "Hazel Kirke," and it will this time be given for the benefit of the poor of Point St. Charles. The production will take place on Christmas week and the receipts will be equally divided between the pastors of the different churches for distribution to the deserving ones.

HIS LAST 'RUN.'

The Point loses one of its oldest and most respected residents, Mr. Joe Birse, the popular engineer, through the sad accident which occurred at Lachine on Thursday morning. Joe was a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, came to this country in 1856 and entered the Grand Trunk service in 1858, and has served them faithfully ever since. He has been running West almost continuously for twenty six years, being a driver since 1864. He was fifty-two years of age and leaves, besides his wife, three sons and three daughters, all grown up save the youngest boy, who is twelve years old. He was a member of St. Matthew's congregation and a resident of the Point since his arrival in this country.

Men's Wool lined Rubbers at S. H. Parker's for 60 cents.

CENTRAL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL.

The regular meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Council was held last Thursday evening, with vice-president Guyon in the chair.

The meeting was called to order at 8.10 p.m., the roll call of officers and delegates being then read.

The minutes of preceding meeting were read and approved.

Credentials were read and received from Geo. Easton, representing the Builders' Laborers Union.

The Ways and Means Committee on the Water Tax question reported that Messrs. R. Keys and Geo. S. Warren had been appointed to collect subscriptions from the public for the Water Tax Fund, and that they had been very successful, over \$100 being collected in three days.

It was also reported that the cases of Messrs U. Lafontaine and A. T. Lepine, M.P., were not, by any means, yet lost, as they could be appealed, when the late unfavorable judgment could be reversed.

The Council then authorized the Com-

mittee to proceed further in the cases and enter them in the Court of Review.

Mr. Helbronner here explained the nature of the case of St. Pierre, just taken. By it the legality of the assessment rolls is attacked, and if the Council wins it, as they hope to do, every householder will have the right to vote, whether they have paid their water or not.

A vote of thanks was passed to those who have assisted by subscribing to the Water Tax Fund.

It was decided that the difficulty between the different unions in the building trades will be finally settled at next meeting.

Motions to amend the constitution were referred to a committee appointed for that purpose.

The Council's representative in the Local House, Mr. Beland, was instructed to oppose the repeal of any section of the Factory Act except those recommended by the factory inspectors.

Mr. Beland having asked for instructions how to vote on the question of taxing the mines, the Council decided to inform him to use his own judgment in the matter.

The majority question was then taken up, and a committee consisting of Messrs. Lepine, M.P., Pigeon and Darlington, were appointed to wait on Dr. Guerin and ask him if he was a candidate for that position. The meeting then adjourned.

THE WATER TAX.

The following donations have been received by the Central Trades and Labor Council towards the Water Tax Fund:

Trades and Labor Council.....	\$1,000.00
Jules Helbronner.....	60.00
S. Carsley.....	25.00
H. Graham.....	15.00
Cash.....	5.00
Halley Bros.....	5.00
W. T. Costigan.....	3.00
M. F. Nolan.....	1.00
J. McArran.....	.25
B. E. McGale.....	5.00
J. Lamarche.....	1.00
Jas. Baxter.....	5.00
H. Morgan & Co.....	5.00
Cash.....	5.00
A. Benn.....	1.00
H. & S.....	1.00
Geo. Coutlee.....	1.00
Ed. Hardy.....	1.00
Richard White.....	5.00
Alphonse Brazeau.....	1.00
Alf. Truteau.....	50
C. Robert.....	1.00
T. A. Grotte.....	50
W. Dawson.....	1.00
H. A. Hetu.....	50
Jos. Dagenais.....	50
Subscription.....	50
H. B.....	1.00
J. B. Bureau.....	1.00
Henry Hadly.....	2.00
Poirier, Bessette & Neville.....	1.00
T. Beugrand.....	1.00
W. Cleudinneng & Son.....	5.00
Mulcair Bros.....	1.00
J. Ratray & Co.....	5.00
L. E. N. Pratte.....	1.00
R. Beullac.....	1.00
N. E. Hamilton.....	5.00

"WOMAN IN THE WORKSHOP."

"L. J. L." REPLIES TO "EMILIE."

To the Editor of THE ECHO:

Sir,—I will again trespass on your good nature and space in your columns for another letter on the above question, as I understand by "Emilie's" last letter, this is to close the dispute, having expressed her intention to withdraw from the discussion, for which I am very sorry, so far as I am concerned—though, perhaps it is better that it should be so, as she says she has made up her mind not to be convinced. In pursuing this discussion I had hopes that some good might result therefrom, but evidently "Emilie" has not derived any benefit from it, and failing, after very "plain talk," to understand my arguments, she indulges in a little sarcasm. I will leave aside all sarcasm, which, by the way, Carlyle styles as the "language of his satanic majesty," and, as briefly as I can, will answer the sophistic arguments, not, I must say, for "Emilie's" benefit—as that, as she says, would be a useless task—but to show your readers, who may not be acquainted with the female labor question, her erroneous statements with regard to their wages and "experience." Before taking up that point, I must make another attempt at convincing "Emilie" that female labor has injured the workingman. We shall leave aside individual ambition—as from the first I spoke in a general sense, not individually.

To be very, very, very plain, I will give an illustration of my argument, and if "Emilie" has not positively closed her reason to conviction, she perhaps will be able to understand. Let us take this city as an example. Well, in this city there is a certain amount of work to be done to meet the demands of the population. Let man be monarch in the workshop and he has it all to himself. Say there are a thousand men to do it. Now those workingmen meet with, say, five thousand women who claim a share of that work. Now it is not plain that those women are an injury to the men. That is as clear as daylight. Again, I would like to refer those interested in this question, and particularly "Emilie," to a small leader which appeared in the Star of November 22. Allow me to quote from it:

"A German statistician has published some remarkable figures regarding the extent to which females have affected the labor situation in Europe. It is shown that there is an increase in females in the best factories. In Germany alone there are over five and a half millions of female artisans and mechanics employed. England follows with over four millions. France with about the same number, and Austria and Italy with three and a half millions. It is not difficult to understand (it is to "Emilie") why labor is so cheap in Europe, and why wages are not as high as in Canada."

It is plain enough from the above statement that female labor has proved injurious to the workingman in taking away a large

portion of the work and in lowering his wages.

Another illustration, to make matters very plain. There is a vacancy to be filled. Both man and woman are competent for it. The man applies for it and asks, as salary, say ten dollars a week. The woman also makes application and offers her services for six dollars a week. Who gets the preference? The woman. Therefore the man's chance of employment is reduced by her presence, and his wages lowered, for were he willing to work for the six dollars, he, every time, would get the preference. "Emilie" may say, why does he not work for that amount? Well, if he were only prompted by individual ambition to procure the vacancy, as it is in the case of the woman—having only herself to provide for—he would no doubt carry the point every time, as I said above, but he has a family to support as well as himself and cannot compete with the woman in wages.

I hope these illustrations will be plain enough to enable "Emilie" to understand the effect female labor has upon the workingman, especially when she learns that in a small portion of Europe over twenty million women take the place of as many men. But if, after this, she still fails to see it, I think the answer Dr. Johnson used to give to those who seemed hard of understanding would be applicable in this case.

Now, for her statements with regard to females' wages and their experience. She says, I think girls who are inexperienced ought to command as high a salary as if they had had several years' experience. I do not think anything of the kind, and "Emilie" knows, or ought to, that even when a girl has had five and ten years' experience she does not command high wages. I also most decidedly think that there ought to be a beginning with a girl, as there is with a boy, and then she could not plead want of experience, and would be able to compete in a legitimate manner with her fellow-man. I am not at all anxious that a woman should get a man's wages from the first, but let her do like the apprentice boy—commence on 25 cents a day, and rise gradually as she becomes experienced. I will give some personal observations to prove that woman never becomes experienced, at least if her salary depends on it, as "Emilie" claims, for she never gets standard wages. I know of an establishment where, in one department, there are seven men and twenty-seven girls—all doing the same work. Some of those girls have been working at that occupation for fifteen years—others only two months—and yet the experience acquired during those years has never obtained for them standard wages. Again, a boy comes in to learn the trade. For a year (mark, a year) he has to sweep the floor, etc., before he can get an insight into the trade. A young girl comes or the same purpose. Immediately she is shown the first rules of the trade, and at the end of two months (mark, two months) she knows far more than the boy who perhaps has been there a year before her, and why? Because it is in the interest of the employer to teach females, owing to the fact that they work for less money. But such apprenticeship never turns out a good worker, at least it is the case in this instance. Then it is that the boy has the proper foundation which "Emilie" alludes to, and not the girl, whose roof is erected on flimsy posts.

Your correspondent says I forgot to mention whether men's salaries were lower before their fair competitors introduced themselves. No, I have not, as I thought she knew it; but, however, seeing she is ignorant of the fact, I will simply refer her to the last sentence of the above quotation from the Star. If wages are higher in Canada than in Europe, because in the latter place there are more females employed, it is evident that woman's appearance in the shop has lowered man's wages.

"Emilie" seems to enjoy as a good joke the statement I made, namely: that drunkenness is more prevalent among the poorly-paid class. Yet it is a fact, and as she says, facts are stubborn things. My letter is already too lengthy to attempt to clear that point for her, but I will ask her, as she seems to be well aware of the "mixed community" which surrounds us, to look around and see for herself. She also maintains that the shop girl is more economical, and bases her argument on the fact that she knows the value of money. Well, it is no use arguing, arguments can always be found; but for my part I declare in favor of the practical girl, who has served her apprenticeship at housekeeping and knows just how to manage everything and do it properly and economically—even though the shop girls might get ahead of her in a darning or mending contest.

Your fair correspondent's pride rebels at my accusing her of being entangled in her previous letter. I beg here to apologize to "Emilie," as the mistake is mine, and her idea is maintained to the end. But I have answered what was meant, and I repeat I grieve at the opinion she entertains towards most fathers. If she judges them from personal observations she must be in very unwholesome surroundings, and with such feelings towards mankind it is a wonder life is worth the living to her.

As "Emilie" has expressed that she withdraws from the discussion, I thank her for her criticisms, and I hope that after reading this letter, will understand how female labor does injure the workingman and undermines his wages. That has been my contention from the first. I must also thank you, Mr. Editor, for the space accorded both of us in your paper. Apologizing for the length of this letter, I remain Yours, etc., L. J. L.

P. S.—As this closes the discussion I would like you, Mr. Editor, to act as arbitrator in this matter, namely, as to whether female labor has proved injurious to the workingman.

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It will pay you to advertise in THE ECHO. It circulates extensively in the homes of the most intelligent workingmen in the City of Montreal and other Towns and Cities throughout the Dominion.

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A full assortment of the latest novelties in Costumes in black or neutral colors found in this department.

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NEW WINTER DRESS GOODS

Lot Number Two
Lot Number Two

240 Pieces, Reduced from 22c to 15c
240 Pieces, Reduced from 22c to 15c

This Lot would be cheap in the regular way at 22c, but as we have too many and the goods must be sold they have all been reduced to 15c.

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NEW WINTER DRESS GOODS

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Lot Number Three

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197 Pieces Reduced from 30c to 19c per yard

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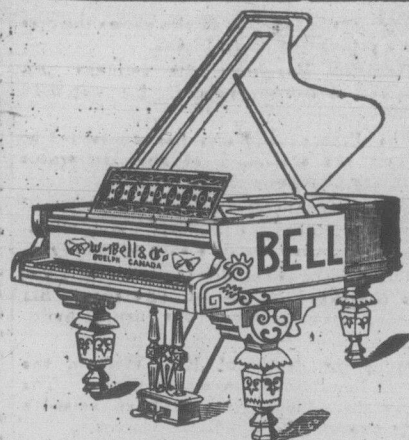
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Will Turn at Last!

The things that are a bitter exasperation to the old are mere trifles to the young.

A young man will endure a twenty-five cent coal oil lamp, with broken chimney, and a room in which it would be fatal to strike your head against your breath, and an apology for a carpet that would reduce you to the lowest ebb of despair, and a landlady whose look of displeasure would send a cold shiver down your spine—with the meekness of a lamb.

But the meekest young man that ever sat out the evening uncomplainingly in his overcoat rises in wrath when his linen is returned from the "wash" torn, or stained, or limp, or sticky.

Then the "old Adam" asserts itself.

For social life, and admiration, and elegance are dear to the young.

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