

NOTICE.

We shall be pleased to receive items of interest pertaining to Trade Societies from all parts of the Dominion for publication. Officers of Trades Unions, Secretaries of Leagues, etc., are invited to send us news relating to their organizations, condition of trade, etc.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(INVARIABLE IN ADVANCE.)

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

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Each insertion, ten cents per line.

Contract Advertisements at the following rates—

One column, for one year	\$150 00
Half " " "	85 00
Quarter " " "	50 00
One column, for 6 months	80 00
Half " " "	45 00
Quarter " " "	25 00
One column, for 3 months	50 00
Half " " "	30 00
Quarter " " "	17 00

All communications should be addressed to the Office, 124 Bay Street, or to Post Office Box 1025.

We wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

Our columns are open for the discussion of all questions affecting the working classes. All communications must be accompanied by the names of the writers, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

WILLIAMS, SLEETH & MACMILLAN,  
124 BAY STREET.

Meetings of Unions.

TORONTO.

Meetings are held in the Trades' Assembly Hall, King street west, in the following order—

- Machinists and Blacksmiths, 1st and 3rd Mondays.
- Painters, 1st and 3rd Monday.
- Amalgamated Carpenters, 2nd and 4th Monday.
- Coachmakers, 2nd and 4th Monday.
- Crispins, (159), every Tuesday.
- Tinsmiths, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.
- Iron Moulders, every Thursday.
- Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday.
- Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Friday.
- Coopers, 2nd and 4th Friday.
- Printers, 1st Saturday.
- Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

OTTAWA.

Meetings are held in the Mechanics' Hall, (Rove's Block,) Rideau street, in the following order—

- Free-stone Cutters, 1st and 3rd Tuesday.
- Lime-stone Cutters, 1st and 3rd Wednesday.
- Masons and Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Thursday.
- Trades' Council, 1st Friday.
- Printers, 1st Saturday.
- Tailors, 2nd and 4th Wednesday.
- Harnessmakers, 4th Monday.

Messrs. LANCEFIELD BROTHERS, Newsdealers, No. 6 Market square, Hamilton, are agents for the WORKMAN in that vicinity, who will deliver papers to all parts of the city.

Mr. D. TERNANT, St. Catharines, will receive subscriptions, give receipts, and take new subscribers for the WORKMAN.

TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

City subscribers not receiving their papers regularly, will oblige the proprietors by giving notice of such irregularity at the Office, 124 Bay street.

The Ontario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, AUG. 14, 1873.

THE EMIGRATION BONUS AND HOW IT WORKS.

It is an admitted fact that one of the greatest needs of any new country is people; therefore, one of the most important functions vested in the hands of those to whom is entrusted the destiny of a new country is to leave no honorable means untried to induce to the shores of that country a class of labor which is calculated to grapple with the hardships of unmoled nature, and redeem from its virgin resources that which makes nations great, prosperous and happy, if honestly distributed—intrinsic value—which alone can be developed and brought to the surface by honest and willing toil, to which it properly belongs by natural title.

A system that would insure the producer in the enjoyments of the full fruits of his productions, would be the greatest inducement that any country could give to those whom it invites to share in the development of its resources. But such seems not to be the policy of our legislators, for while they burden the production of the nation with all the evils connected with money and monopoly that makes living to the masses in the old world such a continual death, they still further tax us to add to our numbers from the most shiftless and thrifless class of the mother country, who have

nearly always been a burden upon the rates of their mother land, and in nine cases out of ten will be the same here. The great cause of Canada's success has not been through pauper emigration, though our emigrants have nearly all been poor, but of that class of poor whose independence and self-reliance would give them nerve to die by the way side before they would fill the place of a pauper. It is impossible for such a class of poor, who have struggled hard for means at home—as the pioneers of Canada's progress and prosperity have done—to make themselves voluntary exiles from a fatherland in which was established unjust monopoly and chronic oppression of the masses, to build up a country other than the one we now call ours, great, independent, prosperous and educated, such as America of to-day is. We view the emigration measures of Canada to-day as only calculated to produce the very opposite effect to that produced by the emigration of the past. We have long looked upon the assisted emigration policy of the Government as a system of legalized robbery that abstracts from the revenue of the country funds that there is crying necessity for in local improvements, in opening up the country for the reception of those who have energy and thrift to come here as a matter of choice; and only benefitting a lot of second-rate puffers who absorb a goodly share of the grant themselves, using the rest in sending over a class of emigrants that the country might well afford to pay to stop away. There came to our knowledge the other day, an honest Irish mechanic, who came here upon his own resources as a matter of choice, and as we were aware that the Ontario Government gives a premium of \$6.00 upon the head of every adult emigrant three months in the country, we advised this man, he having a family that would entitle him to upwards of \$20.00 of this money, and being settled in our midst without expense to the country thus far, to put in his claim, feeling sure that if any emigrant was entitled to the Government premium it would be men of his class, but Mr. Donaldson, the agent at this port, treated the applicant with cold contempt if not rudeness, merely informing him that it is only those who come through the agents who are entitled to the bonus. A pretty game between the Government and its agents. What a monopoly of the emigration is to be played into their hands. The people's money is to be used to check independent emigration altogether, and we are to pay for the lesson that is to teach us, that emigration agents are to be a fixture, that only for them no one would come to our shores, and from henceforth, there is no such thing as independent emigration at all.

As for Mr. Donaldson, the Government fixture in this town, the people pay him, but in reality he is nothing more than the private labor agent for the big establishment of this city. If the men in any establishment in the city are looking for better terms, the man first to the rescue of the employer is Mr. Donaldson, with the cheap labor that our emigration system gives him control of. The whole system is a set up job by the monopolies of this country—a whip for which the people pay to lash them into submission. How long will we pay for it?

SHORT HOURS IN THE COAL MINES.

The unparalleled rise in the price of coal which has taken place in England, has had the effect of calling attention to the "reason why" of such increase. If a man's pocket is touched, he very soon turns his attention to that particular subject, of course with the intention of saving his cash. So when the price of coal went up, every man had his own peculiar opinion of the cause. The majority of people thoughtlessly and unjustly charged the trade's unions with the whole blame of the matter, and bitterly denounced all trade combinations among workmen. In vain the miners disclaimed all blame, in vain they urged that they only shared in a small degree the prosperity of the coal owners, they were condemned, and if possible would

have been punished, if a mode of punishment could have been devised. One way there certainly was to inflict con-dign punishment upon the wretched miners, and that was to charge them with drunkenness, immorality, extravagance and all kinds of depravity.

A parliamentary committee was rapidly howled for to enquire into the question, and when the said committee proceeded to take evidence, lo and behold, it was ascertained that the wages had increased 2s. 10d. sterling per ton, while the price of coal had increased 6s. 5d. per ton, and that the miners rise had always followed the rise in prices. It was further ascertained that the miners increase had been spent in children's carriages, harmoniums, pianos, better houses, more tasteful furniture, books, shares in Building Societies, deposits by the thousand in Savings Banks; more bread, beef and beer, but no increase of drunkenness, no increase of immorality or any of the evil things that had been said of them, or which might have been indulged in on the sum of £2 per week, the average wages received, and to such good purpose was the cash invested that it was gently whispered that their critics might do worse than take a lesson from them.

It was boldly asserted previous to the enquiry that the increase in price was owing to the restricted output, yet it was ascertained that the output was about 350 tons per man in 1871 and 320 tons in 1872. The hours worked were two hours less per day and one and a half days less per week, showing that the men raised nearly as much in four and a half short days, as they formerly raised in six long days.

The total amount of coal raised in 1872 was 6,000,000 tons more than in 1871.

Here we have facts which prove what has been asserted by labor reformers over and over again, namely, that an average man can accomplish nearly an equal amount of work in eight hours as he can accomplish in ten.

In the face of all this we shall have employers keeping workmen at bench and forge, laboring without enjoyment, contracting disease and shortening lives, as though a workman had no right to gaze on God's green fields and flowing rivers, as though man was only made to toil and sweat physically or mentally from early morning to late at night; not because all necessary work cannot be done in eight hours, not because man cannot produce a surplus in less than ten hours, but because some men have lazy hands, and plot and scheme to live upon the labor of other people.

And there seems no remedy for this unless every workman fulfills his duty by joining a trade organization and assiduously endeavors to improve his own and co-laborers condition, to form such laws as will insure a workman a fair share of his own production, to instruct, or be instructed in the nearest, surest, and truest plan of self help for the people.

DECORUM.

Many of the arbitrary rules which disgrace the walls of so many of our shops are often the result of an abuse of privileges on the part of the workmen. Although the employer may be far from being justifiable in prescribing obnoxious and oppressive rules for the government of his shop, yet when we reflect upon the behavior of some men who seem to care little or nothing for the interest of their employers, we can hardly blame human nature for going to extremes. In many of our shops, where the workmen were allowed all the privileges that reasonable men could ask, it was found that the liberality of the employer was not appreciated, but that the workmen invariably abused the privileges and liberality extended to them. This lack of appreciation often led employers to extremes in endeavoring to enforce discipline. Rules and regulations have been adopted by them which, in their very nature, are not only cruel but tyrannical in the extreme, and often bring about unhappy altercations between men who should always be at peace.

There is a natural grasping disposition inherent in the human character, an insatiable desire to do just as one

pleases, and many disputes between employer and employee arise from this fact alone. Of course, much trouble could be avoided if both parties would condescend to meet each other half-way and by arbitration settle their little differences; then there would be fewer strikes and lock-outs, and all concerned would be much better for it.

Many labor reformers are disposed to cast all the blame upon the employer whenever troubles arise; they are seldom known to admit a wrong on the part of the workmen. But this is not our disposition. We shall always endeavor to acquaint ourselves with the facts, and give credit or cast censure wherever it properly belongs. Our mission is one of peace, harmony, tranquility, and good-will toward all men, no matter what position or station they may occupy in life. To preserve the peace, promote harmony, and establish reconciliation between employer and employee shall be our proudest aim and loftiest aspiration. We do not propose to follow the old, beaten path of waging war upon men simply because they have the good fortune to be employers, unless they resort to an abuse of men whose poverty compels them to submit tamely to wrongs and injustices which, under favorable circumstances, they would repel with contempt and indignation.

We have deviated somewhat from the thread of our narrative merely to show our readers that we propose to deal impartially with all, whether employers or employees.

Many of our workshop walls are decorated with disgraceful rules, which require the workmen to report for work before the last tap of the bell, or blow of the whistle, under the penalty of losing an hour, and in many cases a quarter of a day. There is certainly some cause for this, and the employer is not altogether to blame. In many instances known to us men were liberally dealt with in the matter of punctuality; five, ten, and even fifteen minutes grace were allowed and tardiness was overlooked with a leniency which no honorable man would take advantage of. We are sorry to say, however, that this privilege has been almost invariably abused. Men were giving from five to fifteen minutes grace, and so long as this liberality was shown them many were seldom in the shop, ready to commence work, at the appointed hour. This has led many a liberal minded employer to adopt not only stringent but rather arbitrary rules on this subject, and thus the innocent are often made to suffer for the guilty.

We believe in democracy in its broadest sense. We, therefore, cannot agree with men who persist in prescribing rules for the government of men who have no voice in their making. We are of the opinion—in fact we are thoroughly convinced—that if employers would always consult their employees in the matter of framing rules for the government of their shops that less trouble would arise in the enforcement of them.

Workmen, as a general thing, are inclined to deal fairly with their employers; and if they were allowed a voice in the making of rules by which they are governed, disobedience and disregard would scarcely be known throughout the vocabulary of workshop decorum. We throw out the suggestion, let employers try the experiment, when framing rules for the government of their shops to allow their workmen a voice in making the rules. We feel confident that nothing would give better satisfaction to all concerned; at any rate we deem the experiment worthy of trial, and if it is found inexpedient and impracticable after a fair trial we are willing to admit inability on the part of the workmen to govern themselves.

Many disputes arise between the employer and employee, the settlement of which could easily be brought about by submitting the question in dispute to arbitration, instead of resorting to the suicidal practice of strikes and lock-outs. In cases where the employer or the workmen refuse to arbitrate strikes or lock-outs may be deemed justifiable.

We have a case on hand where arbitration failed only because the aggressive

party refused to receive a committee of arbitration appointed by the workmen. The committee went to the office of the shops where the difficulty existed and requested an interview with the senior partner of the establishment, but the illbred tyrant was too cowardly to meet the committee. This refusal on his part to meet the committee brought about a strike, and it now remains to be seen which party can hold out the longest.

However, notwithstanding all this, we have unlimited faith in arbitration. We believe that all questions of dispute can be settled through it and thousands of dollars which are squandered yearly in attempts to cripple one another might be saved or appropriated to much better purposes, and the ill-feeling, and misery which strikes and lockouts bring about would be avoided. We therefore hope, for the benefit of all conected with the workshops of our country, that the workmen and their employers, in case of differences, will meet upon a common platform and adjust their little bickerings by means of arbitration. When this method of settling disputes becomes the universal rule, strikes and lock-outs will forever be abolished; peace and harmony will prevail throughout the workshops of our land.

We, therefore, commend the subject of arbitration to the attention of our members throughout the organization, to our employers, and to our people generally. Let us all work with a will, and for the advancement of our common interests.—Machinists and Blacksmiths' Journal.

THE PRINTERS OF OTTAWA.

Further intelligence from Ottawa only aids in confirming the assertions we made in our last issue in reference to the printer's dispute. The men were quite satisfied with existing arrangements, agreed upon some months ago by the Master Printers and the Union, and it was not until the former made an ugly attack upon the liberty of the latter, that any trouble was anticipated. It is pitiable indeed to witness the manifest anxiety of some small employers to reduce their workmen to such a state of dependency that, the giving them the opportunity to toil for a living may be looked upon as charitable. Many and varied have been the contrivances resorted to for the accomplishment of this end, and it rests with the workingmen of the Dominion to say whether such efforts will be successful or not.

The importation of such a number of printers from England at a time so suited to the requirements of certain Bosses at Ottawa places the pre-arrangement of the whole thing as a settled fact, and who can doubt but the great "anti-unionist" who left Toronto some weeks ago for England has had the transportation of our old country street loafers set aside as a most important part of his mission.

The coming Trades Congress will find in this pernicious system of emigration a subject entitled to serious consideration, and the sooner some means are adopted for its prevention, the better will it be for the future prosperity of our country.

JOURNALASTIC.

We hail the advent of the "Workman's Journal" as a valuable accession to the working class literature of our country. Its columns are unreservedly dedicated to the advocacy of those interests so dear to workingmen, and the ability with which the subjects most closely connected with those interests are handled speaks volumes for its ultimate success. That the Workman's Journal may receive the hearty support of all interested in the welfare of our class is our most anxious desire.

PIC-NIC.

The officers and members of the west-end True Blues L. O. L. No. 551, will hold their second annual picnic and games, at the Crystal Palace grounds, on Monday next. Valuable prizes will be presented for competition. The attendance of the brass and quadrille bands of the 10th Royals has been secured for the occasion, and everything will be done to secure a day's happy and profitable amusement.