POETRY

THE SONG OF THE LAND THIEF

I envy no mortal of low or high birth,
No matter how great or how small;
Whatever it was I might and possession lord,
My single wish was still.

In fact often with I've hurried down
Fifty-twist folivers and varlets,
By hungry lords, a fawning crown
With half a score of harlots

I flatter over-fed man's tomb,
I hunger to do all I attack;
I build the lofty building house,
I dabble in the pack.

The fiber cow less hands I fill,
While I hoard Labor wrecking,
And happy homes with sheriff's bill
And mortgage deeds bedecking

I wind about through hard earned pence
By mass a legal notion,
With here and there a claim to rents,
As I have and there eviction.

And here and there a heartfelt curse,
And language most uncivil
From tenants, forced from bad to worse
As I driven to the devil

I live, through courts of law to day
By slow-house dodge to morrow,
As I outwit me follow of the sharp,
As I poverty and sorrow

I draw men on and suck them down,
The Angels and the slaves,
The trap may fall, the wage may cease,
But I exist goes on forever.

G. J. Stephens, in the Freeman's Star

POOR POETRY BUT STRAIGHT TRUTH

It was walking up town, it was on Saturday night
And he said twas not right
To compel a poor man, who is working his best,
To pay so much dues so he stopped for a rest

He walked into a saloon and ordered the beer,
Which was placed on a table, and drew up a chair,
And commenced to reason about in this way,
"A man can't stand it on three dollars a day

He drank up his beer and ordered another,
And just at that time in came a brother;
He asked him to take one, and was glad that they met
Beside it is too early for the meeting to get yet

"I want to ask you a question about paying our dues
Don't you think them too heavy? Don't you think we're abused?"
"Well, I'll tell you, my brother, the reason and why
First, let's have two beers, for I am getting quite dry."

And the brother continued in about this wise
"When a man has got groceries and house to pay,
And has to buy clothing, school books and shoes,
There isn't much left for payment of dues."

So they sat and they talked till twas much after ten,
And too late to go to the meeting last then.
Two more beers and a deck of cards to play
Was called for and thus time away.

So they played and they drank till it was twelve or more,
And the landlord said he must close the door,
Said one dollar and fifty cents must be paid,
Which was quietly paid and not a word said

And they staggered home their wives to berate,
Complained that the Union kept them out late,
And for taxes and dues had paid quite an amount,
And said that the Union was not much account.

—From Molders' Journal

SUNDAY IN TORONTO.

HOW A PENITENT'S IMPRESSIONS OF THE QUEEN CITY.

IT HAD occasion to spend last Sunday week in Toronto, Canada, and to see how a city of two hundred thousand inhabitants can be made by religious rule. Not a horse car is allowed to run. Not a store or shop of any kind is allowed to be open. Not a newspaper is allowed to be printed. Only one railroad train is allowed to pass through the town. Not a postage stamp, or cigar, or glass of soda water can be bought. Few persons are seen on the street except in going to or from church. On Sunday, the city appears deserted of inhabitants. If one is poor, no opportunities for pleasure are had. If one is rich, however, he may drive about in a carriage, or if a guest at an hotel he may order drinks to his room. Such a rule has made Sunday a terror to the poor, unless one happens to enjoy going to church, walking about the quiet streets, reading or sleeping. There are one hundred and four churches in the city, all untaxed. There are one hundred and six churches in New York, with two million and a quarter inhabitants. Clergymen and lay churchmen rule Toronto and keep it as lifeless as a log. There are thirteen wards in the city, every one of which is named after a saint. Happily I was able to get back to Buffalo before the dismal Sabbath was over. There, in an hotel, I found an orchestra discoursing the sweetest secular music — waltzes, gavottes, polkas, melodies — while the guests were dining. The contrast was deliciously in favor of the States as against priest ridden Canada.

While in Toronto I bought a box of cigarettes, such as cost fifteen cents in New York. I had to pay thirty five cents for them, eighteen cents of which was customs tax, for the protection of Canadian industry over one hundred per cent tax. I am a free trader.

Toronto is the smartest city of its size I ever visited. Considering its population, it has more fine churches than any other in the Dominion, and yet it exceeds them in the temple appetite for church dollars. Behind the times. It is a city of one hundred and fifty thousand souls, and all pulling backward. There are many things to be condemned in the States, but as compared with Canada we have much to be thankful for, and especially that we are not so priest ridden. *Truth, Battle Creek.*

LABOR DAY.

SOME CRITICISM ON ITS OBSERVANCE BY LABOR AND LAW MAKERS HAVE TOO MUCH ABOMINENCE

On Labor Day I was bowling through New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, between Buffalo and Cincinnati, on a fast flying express train. At every station where we stopped, flags and bunting gave evidence of the holiday. This was all I saw of Labor Day, but since then the papers have reported what was done by the laboring people on their distinctive day. Every where they indulged in some amusement of the nature of an old time picnic — dancing, games, eating, drinking, general politicalism, punctuated with speech making, listened to by a few of the pleasure seekers, and prefaced by street parades. Just what is gained, besides amusement, by thus spending one day in the year is somewhat difficult to determine, but, no doubt, the laboring people are satisfied that the day is well and wisely spent, and if they are satisfied why should not every one else be, since it is their day?

ONE FEATURE OF LABOR DAY.

However, it is significant enough to warrant a word of comment. In every town, as a rule, prominent rulers and politicians are invited to speak at the gathering place of the working people, as the mayor of the city, the governor of the state, the congressman of the district, the senators, the leading politicians of the locality, are all present into the service of Labor on Labor Day. It is manifestly, if not inevitable, stipulated that politics shall not be discussed in the speeches, but, nevertheless, the laboring people do not appear to be able to get through the day without the presence, sanction, and patronage of the politicians.

To my mind this is not an admirable, not an encouraging, feature of Labor Day. It indicates that the great mass of the working people do not understand that the interests are inseparably associated with the doings of rulers, lawmakers, politicians, that their interests

LIE IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION

from that in which the politicians would lead them. It indicates, too, a desire on the part of the working people to create or conserve the impression that they desire to act in a toadying spirit to the conventional, orthodox methods of the professional politicians. By calling to their meetings public functionaries and political notables, they seem to wish to have it understood that they will have nothing to do with Socialists, Anarchists, or other avowed enemies of the present industrial and political order. The appears to me to indicate timidity, or that the great mass of the working people are still so ignorant as to suppose that something to their interest may be expected from mayors, governors, congressmen, senators, and the like. The fact is probably the explanation of the laboring people's apparent dependence on politicians to help them through with the Labor Day programme, for people are not timid when their minds are made up to what they want. If this supposition is correct, the outlook for the future of laborers is dark, for timidity, if it existed, would be more easily overcome than superstitious reverence for political gods can be. If, then, one shall not look for much wholesome fruit from Labor Day, until the time comes when mayors, governors, congressmen, senators, and professional politicians shall not be invited to address the laboring people, for men of that class have nothing to say except what, if heeded, would be to the injury of

THE LABORING PEOPLE.

One other circumstance that tends to confirm me in the opinion that Labor Day, as it is now habitually observed, is not fraught with any special benefit to laboring people, is the cooing comment of the daily papers regarding it. These publications have nothing but soft and patronizing words for Labor Day. That good, reverence that is Labor Day the monopolists have seen nothing to fear. Why should they? Their own special agents the politicians, are always, on that day, to labor's platform preaching to laborers the gospel of monopoly, calling the laboring people "the bone and sinew of the country," telling them what a great and glorious country this is, telling them that they are the natures hope and pride, and in all ways cooeing and cajoling them into continued serfdom. The monopolists

HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR

from such a Labor Day, and so the newspapers pipe as sweetly to the laboring people concerning it. But such pipeing bodes no weal to the working people. When the papers begin to talk about Labor Day, it will indicate that it is something of worth to the laboring man. But that time is not yet.

In the old chattel slave times, the masters were sent to bed on with paternal smiles while the black people laughed, sang, scraped a fiddle, danced, and made merry. Even so the monopolists now witness Labor Day with patronizing smiles, as who should say "as long as we can control their thinking through our agents, what matters it, they will work all the more quietly to-morrow for their play to-day. It amuses them and hurts us not."

—Twentieth Century.

It is easy finding reasons why other folks should be patient. *—George's Hat.*

The United States surveying party in Alaska finds that the richest of the gold fields of the Yukon are on the British side of the line.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ON THE ELIMINATION OF INTEREST

To the Labor Advocate:

I NOTICE you editor ally criticise my article in the *Social Economist* on the "Elimination of Interest," and that you are good enough to pronounce its author as "hopelessly muddled." Now, to be muddled is bad enough but to be "hopelessly" muddled (Mon Dieu. Had you not some hope that your own criticism might put me right? I am at a disadvantage before your readers, inasmuch as many of them may not have seen the criticized article in its entirety, and therefore are unaware of my exact position. The article was intended to be concise, and it may therefore have lacked that "distinction" which Walter says the generality of minds seems to require, to enable a thorough process of mental digestion.

In your criticism there are but two sentences directly dealing with my views. The others mainly deal with those of my critic. With these I am not here concerned.

You say "justice in distribution would give nothing to anybody except for actual labor, therefore nothing to interest." This sentence is somewhat epigrammatic, if not ambiguous. But, to be generous, I take it to mean that as the usurer as such does no actual labor, he is entitled to nothing. I do not know what you class under the term usurer, but I presume you use it as synonymous with interest receiver.

If, then, I understand you aright, you contend justice in distribution would leave the lender nothing. Interest would therefore be extinct and lo! my remedy (No 1) has alone worked the charm. How then can I be so "muddled, when you yourself admit my remedy, or rather one of my remedies so completely efficacious?

What we really may not be agreed upon is, as to what constitutes justice in distribution. You apparently think the system styled Nationalism, would realize this equity of distribution. I possibly may not. But as this would involve a most exhaustive discussion on the merits and demerits of numberless "isms," I must refrain from opening the subject at present. All I now wish to point out is, that by your own showing, one of my remedies (justice in distribution) is of itself efficacious, and that you fail to point out anything "muddled" in the article.

ARTHUR E. PHILLIPS,
391 WELLESLEY STREET,
TORONTO, *Sept 21, 1891.*

[" Justice in distribution," as we understand it, on the basis of recognizing actual labor as constituting the only claim to any share in product, would clearly abolish rent, interest and profit. Mr. Phillips, as we take it, uses the phrase as meaning a good deal less than this. Where, according to our view, he is "muddled"- we are willing to withdraw the "hopelessly"—is in failing to see that borrowing is not a voluntary proceeding but one into which men are forced by their necessities under the competitive system.—ED. LABOR ADVOCATE.]

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

THE *Lick* telescope shows 100,000,000 stars.

THERE are 325 electric roads in the United States.

AFRICA is now completely encircled by submarine cables.

BLAME I can bear, though not blameworthiness.—*R Browning.*

INCLUDING the native troops, the English establishment in India is about 220,000 men.

A VELOCITY as high as 2,887 feet per second has been attained by a projectile from a rapid fire gun.

FOLEY places itself in the foremost place to be seen; wisdom stands in the hindmost, to observe.—*Carmen Sylvæ.*

CLARENCE A. FREEMAN, the champion checker player of the land, is a mulatto with a slight tinge of Pequot Indian blood. He used to be a porter and errand boy in an old tavern in Providence, where he lives and began to play checkers when he was seven years old, using white and black beans for men.

THE canal which is to connect Manchester, Eng., with the sea, is one of the greatest undertakings of modern times. Its total length will be 35½ miles. It will be 26 feet deep, 120 feet wide at the bottom and 230 feet at the top. It is about three fourths completed, and will cost about $45,000,000.

A CONFESSION OF FAILURE

The Conference of Co-operative Associations held last week at the Crystal Palace was a lamentable confession of failure on the part of the co-operators themselves to solve the labor question. The speeches were all of the Jeremiah description, and Mr Holyoake had to plaintively advocate the adoption of an "equity badge," to the hope, apparently, of inducing co-operators to deal at their own stores. Far from competing with the capitalists, the productive or wholesale departments had to buy from private firms, because certain goods could be had so much cheaper. One speaker said this was a wrong thing to do, for then a co-operative standpoint this is no doubt true, but the candid critic failed to point out to the societies a way out of the difficulty. Many complaints were lodged that the wholesale departments could not execute orders under two or three months, and consequently orders could not be repeated. This, at first blush, many would say ought not to happen, but it is due, no doubt, to inherent defects in co-operative principles. Co-operative capital, not to enter into the question of co-operative labor, is contributed by shareholders who require no share in the direction, and the result is that large orders discomfort the managers of the wholesale department. The self interest of the co-operative employees no doubt tends to aggravate the difficulty. Then, of course, very frequently there are fine-spun trade orders, which would have the effect of working them long hours one week and leave them to do nothing the next. Co-operators cannot help this, we know, but why do they pretend to solve the labor problem by a system of production which the capitalists do with ease knock them out of time? *London Justice.*

ITEMS OF INTEREST

DELAWARE farmers will receive $1,000,000 for peaches this season.

AND *still another sleeper*. It is an Ohio girl again, and she has been in an almost continuous slumber since early last week.

IN the country around Seneca, Kan., the wolves are getting astonishingly bold, and it is no uncommon thing for the prosperous farmer to find a gaunt specimen peering in at his door.

THE first large quantity of American sponges ever sent to European markets was recently shipped from Philadelphia. The lot comprised 9,000 pounds each of two kinds of sponges from the Florida coast.

BRITISH soldiers on active service will in future wear a card tacked in their helmet, giving the name, rank and regiment of the wearer. This is for the purpose of identification when the survivors are carrying off the dead.

IN the manufacturing line paper bids fair to supplant wood in the manufacture of boxes, buckets, packing cases and many other articles. It is much lighter than wood, and can be made fireproof, to say nothing of its cheapness.

THE petrified body of what was supposed to have been an Indian was unearthed near McKeesport, Pa., on Saturday, by men who were digging a trench. A large collection of arrow heads, a flint hatchet, etc., were also found.

THE average age of families in Europe: France, 3.03 members; Denmark, 3.61; Hungary, 3.70; Switzerland, 3.94; Austria and Belgium, 4.05; England, 4.06; Germany, 4.10; Sweden, 4.12; Holland, 4.22; Scotland, 4.40; Italy, 4.56; Spain, 4.65; Russia, 4.83; Ireland, 5.29.

A NEWARK, Mo., street car mule fell down on the track and one wheel of the car ran over its head and another over his back. The car stopped when it got squarely over the unfortunate animal, holding him down. The occupants got out and pulled the car back, when the mule got up, shook himself and started off at his usual gait.

IMITATION gold is a new compound which was recently discovered and which puzzles the best jewelers to detect. Its weight is that of gold and the acid tests are the same, except that the acid boils a trifle when applied to it, although when it is wiped off or cools it boils as it does when it is cheap and is easily worked. Its chief factor is aluminum composition, from five to eight per cent.

Be not afraid
To give expression to a noble thought,
Because the world may sneer and cry, "Tis naught,
And may upbraid.

Be not afraid
To do the thing that conscience tells us right;
The way is hard, but 'tis not always night;
Thou'lt be repaid.

Be not afraid
To battle sometimes for the lowering side;
The victory of truth o'er wrong and feeble
Is but delayed.

SALE OF PINE TIMBER

A QUANTITY of standing pine timber will be sold by public auction, at the Crown Timber Office, Toronto, on Wednesday, the 14th day of October next, at 11 o'clock a.m., the following timber, viz.:

Spanish River	15,000 cubic feet B.M.
Creeping Lake, north of	15,000 cubic " "
Creeping Lake, south of	15,000 cubic " "
Net Lake, Bannon Station	3,000,000 " "
Township of Monteith	1,000,000 " "
Township of Hess	1,500,000 " "
Total	5,560,000 cubic feet B.M.

Having been damaged by fire during the past summer the undermentioned berths will be tendered for the right to cut the described timber. The limits are more fully described at 2,000 rods feet, to be cut by one inch of Creeping Lake and Net Lake, to be cut by the 31st December, 1892, and the remainder up to and including the 31th day of December next, and not to be cut except on the limits and under the conditions set forth in the printed form of license of timber berths, which will be issued upon application to the Crown Timber Office, Toronto. The right is reserved to the Department to withhold any of the berths mentioned from sale, or to withdraw the same from the list, should the upset price not be realized. Plans of the berths may be seen at the Crown Timber Office, Toronto, and further particulars obtained on application to the Crown Timber Agents at Sudbury and Parry Sound.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines has determined that no timber shall be cut under the Department, will be at Chaney station on next after the 15th September to give information to parties desirous of examining the limits.

The above different conditions will be strictly enforced, and the successful tenderers will be required to enter into bonds with approved sureties to be conditioned for the due performance of the conditions.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

A. S. HARDY,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Toronto, September 1, 1891.

No unauthorized advertisement of this above will be paid for.

A. T. HERNON,
The well known Church Street
BUTCHER,
HAS REMOVED HIS BUSINESS
to larger and more commodious premises, where his old patrons and the public generally will find the same high standard of meat that he has always been noted for
256 CHURCH ST.
Three doors South of Wilton ave

STOVES AND FURNITURE

We sell only the best in all lines

We Have Everything You Want!

Parlor Suites, Bedroom Suites, Chairs, Rockers, Etc

Away Down in Price.

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Cut This Out

We will give every purchaser 20 Discount

On all our goods on presentation of this advertisement

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To close promptly to Toronto University Near College, New Parliament Buildings, etc. Rooms heated by steam. A reliable business school; thorough solid work. For circular containing full information call or write address,

J. M. MUSCROVE, Toronto

N.B.—Mr. Musgrove is the oldest business school teacher in the Dominion. Enter at once

O'KEEFE & CO'S IMPERIAL PALE ALE. TORONTO

G. [illegible] at a meeting of the [illegible] 1891 has subscribed

Honorary mention, Paris, 1878. Medal and Diploma Antwerp, 1885. Awarded Highest Prize, Philadelphia, 1876, for Purity of Flavor and General Excellence of Quality

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Are supplying the Trade with their ALES AND BROWN STOUTS, Brewed from the finest Malt and Best Bavarian Brands of Hops. Highly recommended by the Medical Faculty for their purity and strengthening qualities.

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PURE INDIAN TEA 40c.

Equal if not superior in flavor to teas ordinarily sold at 50c per lb. In 1, 5 and 10 lb. caddies

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TO AGENTS

A chance to make money selling
THE NORTH-WEST
Battle Pictures
Every Volunteer in Canada will buy them

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Satisfies the craving. System Tonic, worth a fortune. Cures many. 25 cts. per box.
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