

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.

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.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.)

Per Annum ..... \$5 00  
 6 Months ..... 3 00  
 Single copies ..... 50

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All communications should be addressed to the Office, 112 Bay Street, or to Post Office Box 1025.  
 J. S. WILLIAMS,  
 SUPERINTENDENT.

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.

TO THE ELECTORS

OF THE

CENTRAL DIVISION

OF THE

CITY OF TORONTO.

GENTLEMEN,—

A large and influential deputation of citizens having informed me of my nomination as a candidate to represent you in the House of Commons, I have the honor to accept that nomination, and therefore ask for your support, having confidence that the electors of Centre Toronto will endorse the request of the deputation by placing me at the head of the poll.

I have the honor to be,  
 Gentlemen,  
 Your obedient servant,  
 F. SHANLY.

Toronto, July 22, 1872.

TO THE ELECTORS

OF

WEST TORONTO.

YOUR VOTE AND INTEREST

ARE RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED FOR

JOHN CRAWFORD

AS

Representative of the Division

IN THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Say less than you think, rather than think one half what you say.

Trades' Assembly Hall.

Meetings are held in the following order:—  
 Machinists and Blacksmiths, every Monday.  
 Coachmakers, 2nd and 4th Monday.  
 Crispins, (159), 1st and 3rd Tuesday.  
 K.O.S.C. Lodge 356, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.  
 Tinmiths, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.  
 Cigar Makers, 2nd and 4th Wednesday.  
 Varnishers and Polishers, 1st and 3rd Wednesday.  
 Iron Moulders, every Thursday.  
 Plasterers, 1st and 3rd Thursday.  
 Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday.  
 Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Friday.  
 Coopers, 2nd and 4th Friday.  
 Printers, 1st Saturday.  
 Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

Application for renting the halls for special meetings and other purposes to be made to Mr. Andrew Scott, 211 King Street East.

The Ontario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1872

AN EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE.

All humanity seems to have the one tendency, that of general elevation and equalization. Age after age records the one unerring story, that of progress—continual progress; so that every vibration of the never-ceasing pendulum of time demonstrates the fact that in man is inherent all the instincts necessary for self-government, not as individuals or a section of the community, but as one advanced intelligent whole, representing all interests, protecting all in their natural rights, and administering justice equally and fairly to a common brotherhood.

And if we take a retrospect of the past for the purpose of viewing the travelled road over which humanity has toiled up to its present perfection, we will see at the head of the route all power—the liberties, the lives of the masses—centered in the hands of the irresponsible despot; but as we advance we see one caste of society after another admitted to the right of legislating; first the grandee, or immediate surroundings of his despotic majesty; then the nobility, then the gentry, then the dealers or traders, and last of all comes the partial enfranchisement of the toiling masses, to whose hands are committed all progress, all prosperity, yea even life itself. Truly must the earth be cursed for Adam's sake, when he, whose only crime, is in fulfilling the divine command, even eating his scanty morsel in the sweat drawn out of him in producing bread for others, who are lucky, or perhaps unlucky, enough to escape, to a great extent, the responsibility of the divine command. Unfair though this may appear, that he only upon whom depends everything vital should be deprived of the exercise of the prerogative of a free man, and occupy nothing more than the position of a sojourner in the land of his birth, though contributing to its progress and wealth every day by his knowledge and industry, and still not having a voice in the disposition of his own liberties; and even his life must be entrusted to the keeping of others; but nevertheless it is too true, and the injustice as it exists—for we must call it so—is of the same nature as evils that have existed, and are now only known by name. They were gradually removed; the tide is still setting toward reform, and the final triumphs of justice over wrong is but a question of time. And as surely as Magna Charta gave rights and liberties to the people of Britain, so sure will intelligence and manhood be the qualifications and only charter of the liberties of mankind not in the distant future.

But as all reforms have been slow and gradual in coming into operation—and well that it is, and has been so, for it teaches those to whom they applied how to appreciate and guard them for their worth, so that while we strongly feel the injustice of any intelligent workman, whose life and liberty are at stake in his native land to the wealth of which he is daily contributing intrinsic value, to be deprived of all the privileges of a free man, yet we know that the selfishness of those who are now freemen is the strongest barrier with

which we have to contend. They are not willing to grant to others the liberty they so much appreciate themselves; so that it only remains for those who would wish to see mankind enjoying their full liberty to keep agitating until they are achieved; and let us hope that the next Government, when elected, will give the Dominion a bill that will admit to the franchise not any particular class of men, such as those employed in stores and banks at stated salaries, but one that will reach all classes of our industrial community—proportionally such an extension of suffrage, with the ballot to insure liberty to the individual in exercising his franchise—will place the toiler in a position to secure every legislative concession he is justly entitled to; and by the judicious use of the liberties we are in possession of, with "onward" our motto, a more just and equitable distribution of the comforts, aye, even elegancies of life must be obtained through the growing worth and intelligence of the great producing classes.

THE ELECTIONS.

The writs for the three divisions of Toronto have arrived, and are in the hands of the various Returning Officers.

EASTERN DIVISION.

In the East, Mr. Beaty's canvas has been continuously prosecuted, and the results are more and more satisfactory. We should still urge Mr. Beaty's friends to continue their exertions, that the return of the workingman's friend in that division may be a grand triumph. The prospects are most assuring; but it will be only by persistently working that the further vantage ground can be obtained.

CENTRE DIVISION.

The friends of Mr. Shanly have so far nobly carried out their promises to use their influence to secure his return as member for the Commons. Like Trojans have they been working, and notwithstanding that the Opposition candidate had so advantageous a start, yet the gratifying results obtained so far by a most energetic canvass give evidence of the growing popularity of Mr. Shanly. The partial returns that have been made are of so satisfactory a character, as to greatly stimulate Mr. Shanly's friends to still more vigorously carry on the canvass. Day after day, the prospect grows brighter, and no doubt seems to exist but that Mr. Shanly will be triumphantly returned. The workingmen have taken hold of him with a will and unanimity that cannot fail to tell in his success; and the nominee of the *Globe* has just reason to dread—as he does—the united exertions and influence of the class whom Geo. Brown has declared should be driven from the country because they dared combine for their own protection. The workingmen—union and non-union—will not soon forget the past, and in the coming election they will unmistakably make the *Globe* and the party, which it leads feel their power—a power and influence that in all probability would not now have been aroused into action but for the occurrences of the past few months.

We have frequently heard the desire expressed that Mr. Shanly should personally speak to the electors, and enunciate his views on the various questions of the day. We believe we are correct in stating that before many days are over Mr. Shanly will return to this city and take the earliest opportunity of meeting his friends and supporters. In the meantime, let the work of organizing and canvassing go bravely on.

WESTERN DIVISION.

The quietness that has prevailed in this Division in political matters bids fair to give place to more stirring times. We understand a requisition to Mr. W. Kennedy is being carried around for signatures, with some degree of success. We have not heard whether Mr. Kennedy will accept the nomination, but a few days will tell. Mr. Crawford will have to look to his laurels. It would be well for his friends to be stirring in the matter, as more opposition may be brought to bear than is calculated upon.

In the famous requisition to Mr. Wilkes, something like ninety names appears of persons whose names are not on the assessment rolls! How is that for bogus?

THE LESSON WORKINGMEN MUST LEARN.

In view of the recent uprising of the laboring masses throughout the Eastern States and Canada, and it must be confessed, their partial defeat, it is well to look the causes which have produced the result squarely in the face, learn by the bitter experience of the past, wisdom for the future, and resolve to avoid if possible the shoals and quicksands upon which their hopes and efforts have been wrecked.

The lesson of all lessons inculcated is the absolute need of thorough organization. In no instance where this has been neglected has success attended their efforts. Not only is this the case, but present indications are, that such failure will ultimately destroy the efforts of those organizations which have temporarily succeeded in obtaining their demands. The unity of interests which pervades every branch of industry, has been demonstrated beyond a peradventure, and furnishes a lesson from which every workingman should take warning. We cannot imagine a more suicidal policy than for an unorganized body to encourage or embark in a strike. Their failure is simply a question of time. What would we think of a commander hurling his undisciplined levies on the almost impregnable fortress of the foe, and yet this, is in a great measure the history of strikes in this and the Old World. Without a dollar in their treasury, with the press arrayed against their interests, always ready and willing to misrepresent their designs and mislead public opinion, with dissensions often in their own ranks, and withal living from hand to mouth, without even acquainting their fellow-craftsmen through the county of their intentions, is it any wonder that they invariably fall an easy prey to the machinations of Capital! The very motto on which their organizations are based "in unity is strength" is disregarded, while a reckless folly is displayed, of which few lunatics would be guilty. An exchange illustrates it thus:—

"A few years ago, while on a visit to the country, we came across an ant hill, a few feet from which was a mammoth spider. A dozen ants were placed within its reach, and gobbled just as easily as most of the thoughtless men who embark in our strikes are gobbled. Placing it in the midst of the ants, we left it to its fate. With what results? In ten minutes we visited its monument. Actuated by a common instinct and sense of danger, what a score of ants couldn't do a thousand did; they attacked the common enemy, they worked in concert and worked with a will, and the result was in a little more than the time it takes to pen this paragraph, his skeleton stood where his spidership was placed. That lesson we have never forgotten, and we have many times wished since that the trades unionists of the United States, could have been present at the dissection."

WORKINGMEN'S ELECTION CLUB.

On Wednesday of last week a number of workingmen interested in the progress of Labor Reform, met at Mr. A. Scott's workingmen's news depot, and formed themselves into an association under the above name—their object being, to endeavor to secure the return of such members to Parliament as would be willing to support all measures tending to advance their interests. Among other important business transacted, a committee was appointed to draw up a platform embodying the required legislation. That committee, acting in accordance with such instructions, have drafted the following to be submitted to their candidates for consideration:—

The Workingmen's Election Club, being desirous of promoting the establishment of Liberal politics, and the social advancement of Labor, with a special view to the assertion of equal rights of voters in Parliamentary and Municipal Elections; and generally, to ascertain the views of those candidates who are aspiring to Parliamentary honors, so that the influence of the working-

classes may be directed to aid in the return of those candidates who are willing to devote their efforts to the securing of the following measures:—

1. Such an extension of the Franchise as may meet the general approval of the people.
2. The securing of the Ballot as the best preventive of bribery and corruption at elections.
3. The repeal of the Criminal Law Amendment Act.
4. A just and impartial consideration of all questions that may, from time to time affect the interests of the working-classes.

A NEW WORKING-CLASS MOVEMENT IN ENGLAND.

For some time past, efforts have been made by our fellow-workers of the Old World to organize a new social and political party; and from recent old country exchanges, we are led to believe that the movement has at length assumed something like tangible shape. It is evident the promoters of the movement believe that the present existing Parliament will not in all probability last much longer than the end of the next session, and they hope to be prepared for action by that time. The object of this new organization is to effect those social and political reforms which they consider have been too long overlooked. They contemplate working irrespective of political party. The movement has been so far successful that a largely attended conference of the leaders and prominent workers in the cause of Labor Reform was held a short time since, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon street, at which Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P. presided. Among the representatives present, were Messrs. Allen, Potter, Howell, Applegarth, Mottershed, etc.—men with whose names very many of our readers will be familiar. At the meeting, it was evidently the wish of all, that differences which had heretofore existed among them should be adjusted, that all strifes should cease; that instead of operating as so many separate and distinct parties—they should form into one harmonious and united Workingmen's Party,—as by that course of action alone could any permanent good be accomplished. We shall watch with interest the progress of this new party, and we hope from time to time to lay before our readers the results of its operations. The following is said to be the platform of the new and united party; and whatever other objections may be urged against it by those who are ever ready to cavil at the operations of the "working classes," it is certainly not open to the criticism of being limited in its scope:—

1. Registration of Voters Bill, reduction of lodgers' rental, and residential qualification.
  2. Assimilation of borough and county suffrage.
  3. Approximate equality in population in electoral districts.
  4. Absolute secret ballot, and candidates to be relieved of election expenses.
  5. Shorter Parliaments.
  6. Members of Parliament to have the right of payment for their services.
- II.
1. The removal of all legal and fiscal impediments to the transfer of land.
  2. The acquisition by the State of cultivable common and waste lands, to be let to co-operative associations, or small cultivators, on conditions that shall secure to them an equitable interest therein—the Land Improvement Commissioners to have power to grant loans to those located on such lands on the same terms as they now lend money for such purposes.
  3. Total abolition of the Game-laws.
- III.
1. Reduction of expenditure in all departments of State.
  2. Taxation, as far as possible, to be direct.
  3. National debt to be diminished.
  4. Readjustment of Income-tax so as to relieve incomes derived from industrial or professional pursuits from same percentage as incomes derived from real property.
  5. Changes in incidence of rating so as to diminish local in favor of national rates.
- IV.
1. Establishment of School Boards in all districts of the United Kingdom, with compulsory and unsectarian education.
  2. Total abolition of the truck system.
  3. An efficient Mines Regulation Bill.
  4. Transfer of licensing power to the people.
  5. Repeal of Criminal Law Amendment Act.
  6. County boards elected on a broad popular suffrage, to exercise power similar to Metro-