THE ONTARIO WORKMAN

NOTICE.

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

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We wish it to be distinctly understood that we do no old ourselves resaonsible for the opinions of correspon held o dents.

Our columns are open for the discussion of all ques tions 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.

TRADES' ASSEMBLY HALL, TORONTO

Meetings are held in the following order :-Machinists and Blacksmiths, 1st and 3rd Mondays.

Painters, 1st and 3rd Monday. Coachmakers, 2nd and 4th Monday. Crispins, (159), 1st and 3rd Tuesday. K.O.S.C. Lodge 356, 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Tinsmiths, 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Cigar Makers, 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Iron Moulders, every Thursday. Plasterers, 1st and 3rd Thursday. Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday. Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Friday. Ceopers. 2nd and 4th Friday. Printers, 1st Saturday. Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

OTTA WA.

Free-stone Cutters, 1st and 3rd Tuesday, in the Odd Fellows' Hall, Rebecca street.

MESSRS. LANCEFIELD, BROS. Newsdealers, No. 6 Market Square, Hamilton, are Agents for the WORKMAN in that victnity, who will deliver papers to all parts of the city.

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.

NOTICE.

We would request such of our subscribers who have not vet forwarded their subscriptions to do so at an early date. Those of our city readers who will receive their bills during the present and coming week w romitting the nunte

The Globe, of May 24th, beads its leaders with an article on the "Increase of consumption of spirits in Britain," in which the writer romarks that "wages have been largely increased, but instead of that increase being employed in rendering the workingmen's homes more comfortable, and giving themselves and their familics increased facilities for rising in the scale of civilization and respectability, it has been the means of rendering these homes more miserable, the individual more degraded, and the country actually weaker, more immoral, and more poverty stricken."

Now, it only needs reciting that the Globe says so, to convince us that the working classes are ten thousand times more "degraded," "immoral" and " drunken" than any class of persons in existence. To be drunk as a lord is a gross libel-lords never do get drunk. And the newspapers ought, every one of them, to be prosecuted for slander for having dared to insert reports of criminal trials for "immorality" indulged in by individuals not being workingmen. In fact, such a low state of "degradation" have the workingmen arrived at, that they ought to be suddenly and violently exterminated.

We have known men who, since the rise in wages took place, have actually been so extravagant as to invest their money in melodeons, and we read an account of some English colliers who were taking lessons in music. This makes matters still worse; such things are simply abominable.

The facts that raised the Globe's ire are, that every individual in Britain have averaged an increase of five pints of malt liquor each, per year, in 1872, over 1870, also about one-fifth of a pint of spirits per year, and a further quantum of wine averaging one pint to two and one-half people.

Knowing that the people who do not work are all temperate people, and only the workers drink, the above quotation. per capita, must naturally be increased. and brings us to the inevitable conclusion, the conclusion that everybody arrived at who read the article in the Globe, that wages are too high and working time is too short.

For fear that some sceptic might infer that the non-workers have more spare time and more spare money than the workers, and, therefore, would get drunk oftener, we say they never do get drunk -no, never.

But our indignation begins to cool, and we think that we might reasonably exercise a little charity. When we remember the poverty of the working classes in former times, and the necessity of sending mere children to the factory to earn some little towards their own living, and the necessary ignorance growing out of this wretched existence, together with the monotony of work, the natural desire for some kind of excitement, we do not so much wonder that considerably more drinking and gambling is indulged in than is good for health or wealth. But the cure is not in still further crushing down those that have already fallen; not in reducing the wages, which are often no more than is necessary for existence, not in shutting out all chance of improvement,

COLLIERS.

A case that is now occupying much attention in England is that of Lord Fitzwilliam and the men of Low Stubbin Colliery. It appears that in February of last year the workmen at the colliery joined the South Yorkshire Miners' Association, and for some time past there has been frequent bickerings between the managers of Lord Fitzwilliam's colliery and the men, resulting in a series of stoppages, first over one question and then over another. Those questions however have been settled by the managers and the workmen, without any reference being made to the authorities of the association. But in May last another stoppage occurred, and was brought under the notice of the association; but the before the growth of capital and the moment it was done so, the conduct of the men was condemned, and they were given distinctly to understand that the association would not even consider any resuming work, and bringing their case properly before the association. At a meeting of the council of the association; a resolution was adopted by the represontatives of over sixteen thousand members, to the effect that the men out of employment at the Stubbin Colliery be reccommended to apologize to Earl Fitzwilliam for the manner in which they had laid the pit idle, and to apply for work at the earliest opportunity. This recommendation was finally acted upon, and a very humble apology signed by a large number of the workmen on behalf of the entire body. For some time, no reply was received from the "noble earl," but ultimately Earl Fitzwilliam addressed his workmen, and not only soundly lectured them, but during his remarks, made assertions which have been very extensively challenged by the press of England; and thus a point has been raised, that demands and will undoubtedly receive, not only close attention from workingmen alone, but from all men connected with the industry of the country,-indeed, we should imagine from all who take any interest whatever in the ultimate well-being of the nation. It was probably not so much jealousy of the

workmen's independence that was uppermost in the lordly mine-owners brain, when he made his remarks; but the freedom of the owner to do just as he pleased-with his own. One extract will explain the case:—

"Although," says his lordship, "I feel an interest in all around me, I don't know that it is my interest-indeed it is a matter of consideration with me on a tour over this continent. Should whether I work my pits again or not. What is here below our feet will serve, I hope, for those who come after me, if it is not to my interest to work it now. It will always be a firm bank to me and mine, and I will go and draw a cheque upon it just as I find it pays me." In these remarks there is much more than is at first apparent, and they have been frequently challenged by the press. The Daily News-the manufacturers mouth-peice—condemns the Earl in the | lethargy. following words :— "It would be possible, on Lord Fitzwilliam's principles, for a combination of landlords to throw the whole of England out of cultivation, and of the owners of mines and collieries to put a stop to every species of manufature. Such a right as Lord Fitzwilliam claims, like some political privileges, exists in the abstract only on condition of its rarely or never being reduced to practice; and is endangered even by its bare assertion in words.'

LORD FITZWILLIAM AND HIS result has been the spread of a deplorable class feeling, which such speeches as that of Lord Fitzwilliam at Lower Stubbin, will only aggravate.

The capitalists may combine---nay have combined against the customer. The famine price of coal in England last Janurary, was the result chiefly of selfish action among the mine-owners: for the advance in colliers' wages was but a trifle of the price which the shive ing consumer was made to pay.

"A hundred years ago (the Daily News notes) a very remerkable compact to keep up prices, under the name of 'The Limitation of the Vends,' was made by the coalowners of Northumberland and Durham. It was an agreement to maintain selling rate, by keeping down production, and was the occasion of many a fierce contest. Although based upon a national monopoly, the scheme gave way multiplication of means of communica-

If the means of communication destroyed the "Limitations of the Vends" alleged grievance the men complained a century ago, what hope could there be of until they put themselves right by for the authors of such a limitation now? A temporary triumph is quite possible, as the public know to their cost; but the imperative----the commanding wants of millions of people-will never suffer permanent restriction by a combination of a few hundred individuals. Shut up all the mines to-morrow; and not very far hence, human ingenuity and human knowledge will have extracted from nature the heat necessary to the life, the comfort, and to the happiness of civilized mankind. The laws of necessity are iron laws, which the men enjoying artificial privileges should never touch upon, with an unfriendly hand.

The real nature of Lord Fitzwilliam's speech will be best understood by a glance at comments it has produced in the foreign press. A writer in La Liberte, who is that rara avis in journalism-a Frenchman with a real knowledge of England-describes the scene between the haughty British peer and his employees, as savoring of "the good old time when communities of men received their happiness or misery from the wisdom or caprice of a few despots, who were sometime good and sometimes bad." It is quite true, there is a feudal mack about the noble coalowner's style. The speech should have been delivered upon a carpet of rushes.

A TOUR THROUGH AMERICA.

We hear it whispered in certain quarters, that Mr. Arch, the famous leader of the reform movement among the agricultural laborers in England, and other delegates, are soon to enter Toronto be honored with a visit from

PIC-NIC AND GAMES.

The employees of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway will hold their second annual pic-nic, at Orangeville, on Saturday first, when about \$300 will be awarded in prizes. Our friends should not lose the fine opportunity afforded of viewing the splendid scenery of the Caledon Mountain. An excellent brass and string band will accompany the excursion, which will leave Toronto (Queen's Wharf Station), at 6.30 a.m.

FREE-STONE CUTTERS, OTTAWA

At the last general meeting of the free-stone cutters of Ottawa, the following officers were elected for the ensuing quarter : — President, John Morris; Vice-President, David Graham; Financial Secretary, John Casey; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, John Lominel; Treasurer, Donald Robertson; Tyler, Wm. Clark; Delogates to Trades' Council, Donald Robertson, Jas. Kelly, James Walker, and Joseph Hogg; Trustees, Don. Robertson, John Casey, and William Clark. The free-stone cutters hold their meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of every month, in the Odd Fellows' Hall, Rebecca street.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The manager of the above popular place of amusement, sets before the public a most attractive programme, and crowded houses are the consequence. The great attraction of the evening is Mr. H. Gurr and M'lle Bastain, in their performance on the double trapeze, and from the way in which they go through their various evolutions, they are certainly deserving of the high enconiums which have been so freely lavished upon them. Miss Fannie Wood, in her character songs and dances, is as charming as usual, and draws forth loud and continuous applause. Miss Grenville is as popular as ever, and is always encored when she appears. Mr. West, in his specialties, makes very great hits, as does also Mr. Carle with his banjo solos, and both of them always receive repeated encores. M'lle Lestie and Mr. S. Saville come in for a large share of applause for their very clevor dancing. Mr. Paddy Murphy is a great success with his "Gems of Erin," and, in fact, the performance from beginning to end is well worth being seen by everyone.

> LIFE AND LIFE FORMS. [No. 4.] BY R. R. Y.

The term insect, although having popularly a very wide signification, has in science a comparatively limited application. Strictly speaking, insects are those in which the articulated form reaches its highest point of perfection, and which has particular and well-defined characteristics, some of which place it above every other invertebrate form. The body of the insect is made up of ten parts or segments, of which three form the thorax or trunk ; and to each of which is attached two legs, making six in all, a number which is invariable and peculiar to insects. In addition to these, they are provided with wings, the curious eyes, known as compound, and a pair of antennæ, or feelers, all of which characteristics we now meet for the first time in the animal scale. The insect class is an exceedingly interesting and extensive one. Its members. which present to us an endless variety of form and color, swarm in almost every part of the world, flying, leaping, burrowing or swimming with the most untiring activity ; in many cases delighting the eyes and theears of the attentive observer of nature, and contributing, by their industry and other ways, to the comfort and gratification of man; while, in not a few other cases, they succeed in rendering themselves highly disagreeable and obnoxious, and at times terribly destructive. The number of species alone is very great, and quite unparalleled by any otherclass in the animal kingdom. Swainson, who is considered a good authority on this. point, calculates the number of species to be not less than 550,000, while it is known. that all the remaining species of animals at present existing, does not exceed 30,000. As might be expected, much difficulty has. been experienced in intelligibly classifying this immense number of varied forms, and many plans were proposed, each having some merits; but that one which takes-

forthwith.

The Outario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1873.

DRINKING HABITS.

The working classes seem to be an object of care and pity to some people who want to earn a cheap character of being the workingman's friend. Time after time we are treated to long speeches from rich and sometimes titled individuals, and to long articles from the rich representative press, all proving that the working man-the poor, pitiable workingman-is getting too much cash and too little work.

We have a lively recollection of the Earl of Derby treating the public to a lengthy speech, whorein he complained of the extravagant mode in which the work people of England wasted their wages. At that time his own laborers were receiving the enormous sum of ten shillings sterling per week. It would take a large amount of rhetoric and declamation to convince us that any extravagance could be indulged in by any family receiving such a miserable pittance weekly as were received by his grace's work people.

We could instance hundreds of occasions where the same idle tale has been told, but we will proceed to instance a more wicked and diabolical attempt at oppressing the industrial population of the Vienna Exhibition, sailed from Great Britain and our own country...:

but in enforcing the education of our young, giving them a moral education as a foundation for all other education, and in opening innocent amusements for the people, and as far as possible wiping out those of a vicious tendency. Establish a sound public library, beautify the parks, open out other places as public gardens in various parts of the

city, and we in Toronto can then have some inducement to let the obnoxious whisky alone.

And we would like to impress on our readers that they can do a little towards giving the people rational amusements by selecting proper persons as their representatives in the Council and the Parliaments, who are really friends of the people, and let all those who can do nothing more than scold stay at home.

for The Commissioners appointed by the Dominion Government, to visit Quebec on Saturday last.

By depopulating the land, for the pleasure of shooting deer and game, landowners in the North are proving

that they have the right which Lord Fitzwilliam now claims for the mineowner; but can his lordship not porceive that the use of the right, which was not in dispute until he indiscreetly asserted it, carried to a certain point, would be at the peril of property altogether? It is true that he might combine with the rest of the coal proprietors

in Eugland, to maintain the price of fuel at the highest figure of last winter: of the Journal, that they are enabled that is, make a league against the whole, not only to improve its appearance, but body of the people. The experiment also add eight pages more reading mathas been tried on a small scale, and the ter to it. We wish it every success.

a man who has gained such a high and lasting position in the estimation of his fellow workers, we hope that the various trades will bestir themselves, and see it to be their duty and privilege to give him a cordial welcome. The Trades' Assembly will, doubtless, give this subject consideration. We want something to arouse the trades from their present

GENEROSITY.

Sessions, Cooper & Smith, boot manufacturers in this city, besides giving their employees the half-holiday during the summer months, allowed them to quit work an hour earlier on Saturday last, in order that they might obtain a good view of the Orange procession. Such acts of kindly recognition are well calculated to secure the respect and excite the highest energies of employees to promote the interests of those employers who practice them.

JOURNALASTIC.

The Iron Molders' International Journal for the month of June is to hand and we are pleased to notice its improved typographical appearance and general make up. It must be a source of gratification to the members of the International Union, as well as to the managers