

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES JOHNSON SMITH.

County of York, to-wit: I, James Johnson Smith, of the City of Toronto, in the County of York, make oath and say, as follows:—

1. That I was engaged as a carpenter on the Central Prison works from the third to the thirtieth day of December last.

2. Shortly after I commenced to work there, I found that the men engaged there on the said work were frequently canvassed by the foreman of the different departments in favor of Thomas Moss, the Government candidate in the election for West Toronto. On the morning of the day of nomination in the said election, one Foster, the foreman in the carpenters' department, went around among the men of his department and said that every man there must attend the nomination, between twelve and one o'clock, and remain there till after the nomination was over. And if any left before the proceedings were over he would have his time stopped; but if they remained till all was over they would be paid.

When questioned by the men, myself among others, why we were ordered to attend, he said "I cannot help it, it is my orders from the Commissioner." The said Foster further said that we were to go to the nomination for the purpose of cheering for Moss, or words to that effect. Accordingly, the said workmen did attend at said nomination, but I was not paid for the half day because, as I verily believe, on account of being a supporter of Mr. Bickford; although the others who supported Mr. Moss were, I am informed, and verily believe, paid for the same time as promised by the said Foster.

In the forenoon of the Saturday previous to the election, the said Foster came among the men at the works, and asked them for whom they intended to vote, and took the names on a card.

He came to me and asked me how I intended to vote, and I answered, "for Bickford."

Foster told me in reply that if I did so vote I must put up with the consequences, and asked me if I could not stop at home and not vote at all. I replied that I had promised my vote to Mr. Bickford, and for him I would vote; he then said "all right" and left me. About four o'clock that afternoon Foster paid me off and discharged me from the work without any cause being assigned and without notice other than what I have stated.

I verily believe that the cause of my so being discharged was on account of my intention to vote for Mr. Bickford in the late election, and against Mr. Moss, the Government candidate.

"I have since applied to Foster for employment at the said works, but have been refused."

"I frequently saw Mr. McKellar, the Commissioner of Public Works of the Province of Ontario, engaged in conversation with the foremen of the different departments at the said works, and have every reason to believe that such visits were made for the purpose of influencing the electors there in favor of Mr. Moss in the late election."

JAMES JOHNSON SMITH.

Sworn before me at Dover Court, 5th Jan., 1874.

R. L. DENISON, J. P.

This plain and straightforward statement, made under oath, leaves no room to doubt that intimidation was resorted to; but before saying anything further on the subject, we wait the promised investigation of Mr. McKellar.

THE ASSOCIATED MINERS.

The Associated Miners of England have been sitting in Conference at Leeds. The whole trade is in circumstances of perfect peace. During the past year there has been no strike, and no occasion for a single levy. The delegates assembled represented 130,000 men. Mr. Macdonald, as President, rebutted the charge that the working miners had caused the advance in the price of coals, and were driving trade out of the country. Trade is brisker now than at any time since 1866; and this notwithstanding the increase of miners' wages. These conclusions are amply sustained by the report of the deputation. The real cost of coal at the pit's mouth is seven shillings a ton; the miner gets 1s. 10d. of this: let the consumer ask himself what causes the difference between seven and six times seven! The facts and reasoning of the report were fully borne out by the President in his comprehensive and able speech. A hundred thousand colliers are now working under Councils of Conciliation. Nevertheless, they must look to it for themselves that the Miners' Act is fairly and fully carried out, and that the Criminal Law Amendment Act be either repealed or made equally applicable to all parties, masters and men. With respect to representation of labor in Parliament, Mr. Macdonald earnestly advised the trade to make up their minds what they would do, and then either do or let alone. Adverting to co-operative production, he urged it till the mass of the industry of the country should be carried on by that means alone.

The New Haven Union says: The word is passing around, "strike down the wages of labor"—"throw upon industry the burdens of stock gambling and speculation." We do not know but this is necessary to preserve the solvency of great corporations says *For People*, but we do know that it is wrong. Are railroad companies reduc-

ing passenger fares, and the price of grain carriage? Are manufacturers charging less for their fabrics? Has merchandise fallen? Have rents fallen? Have groceries fallen? Has fuel fallen? Has anything fallen in price, that labor must purchase or suffer, and perhaps perish for the want of it? To strip workmen of part of their wages is to create an unequal condition—forcing them, while receiving less, to pay more than their share of the inflation that oppresses every interest of society. Are manufacturers to keep their swindling tariff; railroads their monopoly bankers their exclusive currency issues; and every profession its rates, while labor alone is to bleed and suffer? Is this the feast to which the monopolies have invited the workmen of the country? Are the families of men really of no value, and must little children lack food and clothing, that capital and class interest may be pampered?

CIVIC ELECTIONS.

The municipal elections on Monday passed off in a very quiet, and orderly manner, though considerable enthusiasm and electioneering spirit was manifested, especially in the early part of the day. The contest for the mayoralty was keen throughout, between Mr. Medcalf and Mr. A. M. Smith.—Mr. Manning virtually retiring before noon. The election resulted in a majority of 248 for "old square-toes," and we feel satisfied Mr. Medcalf will as faithfully perform the duties of his office as when he was previously elected to that position by the *vox populi*.

No changes have been made in the board of Water Commissioners. Mr. Edwards kept close at the heels of Mr. Greenlee, but at the close of the poll, was 300 behind. The election for aldermen resulted as follows:—

St. Lawrence Ward.—Messrs. Britton, Hamilton, and Close.

St. David's Ward.—Messrs. Martin, Davies, and Blevins.

St. Thomas' Ward.—Messrs. Withrow, Mutton, and Adamson.

St. James' Ward.—Messrs. Bonstead, Henderson, and Sheard.

St. John's Ward.—Messrs. Gearing, Downey, and Spence.

St. Patrick's Ward.—Messrs. Mallon, Baxter, and Ball.

St. Andrew's Ward.—Messrs. Dunn, Hayes, and Farley.

St. George's Ward.—Messrs. Colwell, Tinning, and Clements.

BRICKLAYERS AND MASONS' UNION.

At the semi-annual election, on the 2nd inst., of the Bricklayers' and Masons' Union, No. 1, Ontario, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term:—President, J. Jolly; Vice-President, K. McGee; Recording Secretary, J. Kennedy; Financial Secretary, T. Carro; Corresponding Secretary, Frank Hunnisett; Treasurer, K. Castle; Tylers, J. Simpson, and E. Bullock; Delegates to Toronto Trades' Assembly, T. Story, J. Summerhays, W. P. Parsons.

K. O. S. C. No. 159.

At the regular meeting of Lodge No. 159, K. O. S. C., held in the Trades' Assembly Hall, on Tuesday evening 6th inst., the following officers were duly installed:—Bro. Wm. Brown, D.; Bro. David Strachan, Sir Knight; Bro. Wm. Lennox, K.; Bro. Robert Stark, F. S.; Bro. Wm. McCormick, R. S.; Bro. Wm. Johnson, C. S.; Bro. John Davis, Treasurer; Bro. R. Eyer, Usher; Bro. Jas. Brown, A. U.; Bro. John Irvin, G. S.; Trustees, Samuel Marshall, A. Lloyd, Wm. Brown. Delegates to Trades' Assembly, D. Strachan, R. Eyer, Wm. Brown, and C. Kusiar.

PAINTERS' UNION.

The election of officers of the Painters Union of Toronto, No. 1 of the Canadian Labor Union, for the ensuing quarter took place on Monday last, when the following were unanimously appointed:—Mr. Henry Armstrong, President; Mr. Powell, Vice-President; Mr. Henry Leech, Financial Secretary; Mr. Henry Norwich, Recording Secretary; Mr. John W. Carter, Treasurer. Messrs. R. D. Mowatt, Powell, and J. W. Carter, were appointed delegates to the Trades' Assembly. Messrs. R. D. Mowatt, and G. Harris, Auditors.

Mr. CHAS. FISHER has announced himself as a candidate for School Trustee for the Ward of St. John. Mr. Fisher is so well-known in the ward, that we are sure the ratepayers will be glad to have him serve them in the interest of education.

GRAND TRUNK BALL.

The Grand Trunk Ball will take place to-morrow (Friday) evening in the St. Lawrence Hall. Under the management of so efficient a committee as have been appointed, we are sure all who attend will have a pleasant time.

FIREMAN'S BALL.

The members of the Toronto Fire Brigade intend celebrating their third annual ball in the Music Hall, on Tuesday evening, January 20th. The city has reason to feel proud of its Fire Brigade, and we doubt not their social gathering will be largely attended. We expect a full hall will greet "the men who face death," on the evening of the 20th inst.

KNIGHTS OF MALTA.

The Knights of Malta of this city intend celebrating their second anniversary by a Grand Ball in the Music Hall, on Friday evening January 16th. Those who were present at their first Ball will long have in remembrance the pleasure afforded on that occasion and the members of the committee are determined that the coming Ball shall prove still more attractive than the last, if possible.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Mr. Z. R. Triganne, lessee and proprietor of this popular place of amusement, evidently understands the force of the old adage that "variety is charming." He has accordingly secured an engagement with the Leroux Bros., George, Thomas, Alphonse and Edgar, who are deservedly pronounced the monarchs of gymnasts. Miss Emma Roberts, the famous serio-comic vocalist and danseuse, appears nightly with great success, while the comicalities of Ned West are as irresistible as ever. There are many other attractions, and altogether the performances are pleasing in the extreme.

We understand that Mr. Robert Graham is proposed at Ottawa as the Workingman's Candidate for the Local House. We have received no particulars in reference to the matter, and should like to hear from our friends in that city.

SHORT SERMONS.

NO. V.

BY A LAY PREACHER.

Other men labored, and ye are entered into their labors.—John, iv. 38.

MY FRIENDS,—I have heretofore presented to your attention the words of holy men of old, who spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost—of men who lived before "the day spring from on high visited us." I ask you now to come with me and hear the words of Jesus—wiser than Solomon. While listening to Him, let us still keep in mind the thought with which we started—the searching of the Scripture for the clearest light, the wisest counsel, in our efforts to work righteously and to most surely obtain the reward.

The discourse in which Christ uses the words of our text is one in which He urges upon His chosen messengers of Grace the duty of pressing the work of reforming the social world to its completion. He shows them on one hand, that the work of early prophets was not to be rejected in preaching the new gospel; they had spoken sure words in foretelling the coming of a better day—a day in which the wages of the hireling would not be withheld; in which oppressive measure should not be exacted of him who labored for his bread; in which he who planted a garden should eat the fruit thereof; in which the "husbandman that labored should be first partaker of the fruits." And, on the other hand, He showed them that it would be their duty betimes to go and preach where the words of prophecy had not been heard. Here they would have to begin an entirely new work, and often before they would see the result of their mission, they would enter into rest, and others would rise up and, following the course marked out by the pioneers, would win many to a belief in the doctrines preached—and, naturally enough, enjoy large comforts and sometimes profit in the harvest.

So starting, Jesus guides His disciples over and beyond a barrier where many men hesitate, and some fail entirely. There be many who, when invited to join in the God-devised plan of union—either in productive labor or in securing labor's reward—refuse consent, or, worse, positively oppose, because some one or more of those who have given life to a specific enterprise or conducted some organization to a commanding position, have failed to make themselves wealthy. Many others object because themselves would have heavy labor planting, and others easy time gathering. To such as these does He who spake as

never man spake, address the strongest argument that could be worded. What we have we owe chiefly to the toil of others before us. For ourselves, for our children, we are in duty bound to so work that we may produce the largest, best results; to reap in full the fruits of those who have sown good seed in advance of us. And union in labor and commerce is not now an experiment—"the field is white to the harvest."

Let us heed the counsel of the great Teacher come from God. With Him who worketh in us, LET US WORK TOGETHER.

Correspondence.

ST. CATHARINES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

ANOTHER UNION IN ST. CATHARINES.

A few days ago a meeting of the painters was held in the Temperance Hall, Haynes' Block, St. Paul Street, to take into consideration the propriety of forming a Painter's Union. Mr. Swanson occupied the Chair, there was a fair attendance. Messrs. Magness, Carroll, Tennent, and Cook were there by invitation, and addressed the meeting, after which it was resolved to form a union. The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. Chapman; Secretary, Mr. Swanson; Treasurer, Mr. Harris. On the suggestion of the chairman, the election of the other officers was delayed till next meeting. On the motion of Mr. Swanson duly seconded a cordial vote of thanks was awarded to Messrs. Magness, Carroll Tennent and Cook, for their attendance and sympathy. Carried unanimously. The above gentlemen returned thanks for the compliment. We feel it but just to say, that great praise is due to Mr. Swanson in getting up the above meeting, and we feel safe in saying that as Secretary, he is the right man in the right place. This being the seventh union in town, we think it high time that a Trades' Assembly was formed in St. Catharines—with such men amongst us as Magness, York, Carroll, and Cook, success would be certain.

TRADES SUPPER.

There is considerable talk just now about the propriety of having a united trades supper. We trust this matter will be at once gone into, as we feel sure in many respects it would have an excellent tendency. The idea is to have it the hall where the most of the societies meet for business, it would hold a hundred comfortably.

STATE OF TRADE.

Trade, we regret to say, is getting very dull in town, large numbers may be seen every day walking our streets out of employment, and as a consequence, there is a good deal of suffering.

St. Catharines, Jan. 3, 1874.

JUDICIAL DECISIONS IN RELATION TO LORD'S DAY OBSERVANCE.

(To the Editor of the Ontario Workman.)

SIR,—Man would never have been so merciful to man as to grant him one day in seven, on which to rest from his labor. I express this conviction least I should be misunderstood with regard to the remarks which follow:

I had not long reached this country before my attention was arrested by the extent to which the administration of the law is influenced by traditional views respecting Sunday observance. While on the one hand, it is highly desirable that the laws of man should, so far as possible, be a faithful reflex of the law of God, it is not less necessary to avoid substituting human misapprehensions for God's laws, and palming them off for divine. I know not whether, in the present instance, the error attaches to the law of the land, or to its administration—in either case, the practice is the same. The fact to which I desire to draw attention is the assumption that certain relaxations permissible on week-days are not to be tolerated on Sundays—that deeds reprehensible enough on ordinary days, are doubly so on Sundays, &c., &c.

I wish, so far as possible, to avoid trenching on the metaphysical aspect of what is termed the Sabbath question, but when one finds the magisterial bench doing duty as sounding-board to certain pulpits, the teaching of which, on this subject is decidedly unsound, it appears to be time to protest.

I therefore unhesitatingly avow that whatever the authority be whose sanction is invoked for the support of the judgments above indicated; it is not that of the Almighty. In proof of the non-sabbatical character of Sunday, I will merely refer to two or three sacred passages, and add a few facts for the consideration of those who are capable of weighing them against a

tradition traceable to the time of Cromwell. The first passage to which I refer, is contained in Matt., xxviii. 1 where the distinction between the seventh and the first day of the week is as marked as words can make it. A similar passage occurs in Mark xvi. 1, 2.

The conclusive teaching of the Apostle Paul (Col. 2. 17) as to the evanescent character of the day in question, is the only additional Biblical authority to which I shall advert. We have the testimony of Cyprian, Justin Martyr, and others of the fathers to the effect that there was no confusion between the seventh and the first day for the first three centuries. Josephus also may be cited to the same effect.

Not to multiply witnesses unduly, I will merely observe, that the Church of Rome has never attached aught of a sabbatic character to the Sunday. It is not until the times of the Puritans that we meet with well intentioned efforts to sabbatize that day, hence I feel it incumbent upon me to protest against a baseless assumption with regard to the day, being made the ground for the infliction of penalties on account of the breach of its reputed sanctity. As I am in no position to encounter a hostile army, I avail myself of the privilege of the Press and subscribe myself.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

Mr Redgrave, Inspector of factories, in his forty-first report upon the state and condition of workshops, in England, says:—

I consider the closing factories not later than 1 p.m. on Saturdays has been of great advantage and comfort to the operatives and I should regret if it could not be maintained.

It appears to me, therefore, to be most desirable that in any legislation for reducing the hours of work provision should be made for permitting these modifications of the hours of work to be maintained as a part of any proposed reduction.

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JOHN LOVELL, Publisher.

Montreal, 9th August, 1873.