CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE. viotorious struggle ended in ad advance of wages, the introduction of the "hour system," and in the adoption of the "one o'clock" Jimit to labor on Saturdays.

In later movements of the Building Trades, George Potter has taken considerable share; among which may be mentioned that which has recently resulted in the men's receiving ninepence per hour and leaving off work at twelve o'clock on Saturdays. When he came to London in 1853, wages were but sixpence per hour, and the closing hour of the sixth day's work four in the afternoon. Thus, in the course of the intervening twenty years, the men have gained threepence an hour in wages and six hours' reduction in the week's work.

Nor have George Potter's earnest and indefatigable exertions for the benefit of Labour been confined to his own trade and trades allied with it. In almost every trade going, he has advocated the claims of the men, and in nearly every instance with success; while, in every part of the Kingdom, his voice has been heard with good effect on behalf of shorter hours and better pay. He has been styled "High Priest of Trades Unionism;" and neither on account of the cause to which he has consecrated himself nor of the results that have come out of his devotedness, has he any reason to be ashamed of the designa-

The relative claims of Capital and Labour have become, in fact, the question of the day. It was consequently impossible that any man should throw his heart and soul into it without becoming, in the highest sense of the word, a politican. All classes form a part of every nation; but without the laborer there can be no nation at all. This it is which renders a universal'humanitarian internationalism throughout the civilized globe inevitable. No wonder, then, that, when, in 1865, Joseph Garibaldi publicly entered London, a man who had played the part among workingmen, which had fallen to the lot of George Potter, should he ve had the honour, as a member of the committee, of receiving him at Nine Elms Station on hehalf of the toiling millions of his fellow-countrymen. Be it ever borne in mind, however, that when certain occurrences gave rise to much speculation, not unmingled with mistrust, as to the opinion and feeling of the working classes on theoretical questions of political constitution and national government, George Potter voluntarily stepped forward, and, on his own sole responsibility as a working man, published in the Times and the Nonconformist his views in favor of so working our existing institutions, as to bring about the general good of the whole community rather than insist upon the immediate experiment of a pure Republic.

During the Cotton Famine, occasioned by the Civil War in the United States, George Potter was among the foremost to raise funds for the relief of the distressed operatives in Lancashire and Cheshire; while, with equal energy and not inferior success, he exerted himself to the utmost to dissuade the British Government, too much inclined to do so, from recognising the South as belligerents instead of regarding them as rebels, thereby entitling himself to share in the praise of those who rescued free England from helping to form a nation and a state whose foundation would have been slavery, and whose first-interest it would have become to provoke a war with this country and with our free brothers across the

George Potter took a prominent part in the Reform Movement of 1866. He was President of the London Working Men's Reform As-Ameiation, and mainly instrumental in produc-ing and carrying out the great trades demonstration towards the close of that memorable year. He has had a hand, in short, in all, or mearly all, the public and political movements of the industrial classes during the last fifteen years, as appeared when the workingmen of London and of the country recognized his services by presenting him with an address of acknowledgment, accompanied by a purse containing the handsome donation of three hundred guineas.

No columns are more appropriate than these for due notice of George Potter's services through the Press. In 1851, he established this paper, the Bee Hive, which he has conducted until the present time. It has participated in the vicissitudes of a busy and trying period; but, without any boast, it may be described as the generally acknowledged organ of the claims of Labor, and as exercising an appreciable influence on social and political

George Potter it must be admitted, has not been so successful with regard to strictly public office, as in his previous and continuous career of special and general usefulness. In this respect, however, it is but just to him to observe, that he has never of his own mere motion aspired to any representative trust. If he has twice offered himself as a candidate for a seat on the London School Board, and on both occasions without success, he yielded in each case to the urgent solicitations of many infacutial voters, and was called upon by persons of every section and by the press to a candidate for a seat in Parliament, conwith inducing the workingmen in several constituencies to carry by their votes and in fluence the election of gentlemen in whom he felt that working men could place confidence. The time, however, seems to have arrived when candidates who, like himself, belongs to

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the working class, will be constrained to come forward on their own account; and, as no other man is better acquainted with their wants and wishes, so no ether man would, if returned to the next Parliament, be more readily credited as a witness to facts and an exponent of their sentiments.

For obvious reasons, the purely personal qualifications of George Potter for a seat in Parliament, must, so far as these columns are concerned, be left to the private opinion of every reader. It may, however, be permitted to close this biographical sketch by stating, that, in 1857, he was united in marriage to Jane, daughter of the late Charles Cooke. shoemaker, of Warwick; with whom, and their children, he leads a modest, lowly, and retired life, in the city of Westminister, sometimes misropresented and frequently abused as a public man, but loved and loving among his relatives, and solaced by the respect and esteem of many friends whom he has gained from every grade and section of society.—Bee Hive.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

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. F. BRAUN.

Secretary

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Department of Public Works, Ottawa, 2nd September, 1873.

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