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MONTREAL, December 5, 1891

THE ECHO is mailed to subscribers at a distance every Friday evening, and delivered in the city early on Saturday. Parties not receiving their paper regularly should communicate with the office.

PROPERTY QUALIFICATION.

Time and again has the Trades Council petitioned the City Council to take up the question of property qualification, and time and again have these petitions been thrown into the civic waste basket. But all things must come to an end and even the churlishness of an alderman must exhaust itself; so the subject was handled by the Board of Chairmen at their last meeting. It is true they did not spend much time over the matter, being rather afraid of discussion evidently, but the ultimate fate of this last petition (remitted to a full meeting of Council) leaves room for suspicion that some time or other it will bob up serenely again. We hope, when it does come up, those who are opposed to the removal of this antiquated class distinction will have courage enough to give reasons for their opposition. So far, all the argument has been of the "pooh! pooh! ridiculous!" nature. Not one sound or valid reason has been advanced why it should be necessary to hold "real estate" in order to be an alderman. Even Alderman Stephens, who is usually prolific in argument and sound in his conclusions, fails to advance anything in support of the position he takes on the subject. Does it not smack of childishness to say that if property qualification were abolished the city would come under the domination of irresponsible parties? At all events, it either looks very much as if Mr. Stephens was not exactly sure of his own fitness for the position or that he is afraid to run his chances of election along with a workman. But if property qualification were abolished to-morrow how could the city be run by "irresponsible" parties, and what does he mean, anyway, by "irresponsible?" Has not an intelligent workman, even if he is only a householder, just as much interest in the city's progress, in its good and economical government, as the millionaire land owner? Yes, and more so, probably, because the latter has the temptation ever before him to vote for unnecessary expenditures on works which merely have the effect of increasing the value of his own property at the expense of the great body of taxpayers. Could the average workman be less independent of monopolies than are our aldermen as now constituted, or less careful of the interests of their fellow-citizens in dealing with them? We believe not. For years workmen have been engaged in a fight against monopoly of every kind, and as practice makes proficient no doubt his expe-

rience would make him wary. Like Tennyson's old farmer, Alderman Stephens is at liberty to believe in "Pruppity, pruppity, pruppity!" but surely he does not contend that the mere fact of its possession makes a man more richly endowed with brain power than his neighbor who is "landless, landless."

THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN OTTAWA.

We learn from a correspondent in Ottawa that the recent great strike of mill hands on the Chandiers has had a most beneficial effect upon the labor movement in that city and also in Hull. The conditions under which the mill hands had to work, although known to be hard, were not suspected by the great majority of people to be nearly so bad as they were. The utter helplessness of these workers single-handed to protect themselves against the exactions of the millowners has opened the eyes of workmen generally to the necessity of uniting together if their condition in life is to be improved; they have been led to contrast the condition of organized and non-organized labor, and the consequence has been an awakening which is likely to lead to large additions to the army of organized industry. Prior to the strike the number of union men was under three hundred, but now they number over two thousand five hundred and that number is being daily increased. And the infection has spread beyond the mill hands; other branches of trade have caught the fever and are rapidly organizing. The Retail Clerks have formed an Assembly of the K. of L. and are taking steps to enforce early closing, six o'clock being the hour fixed upon. Even the Corporation employees have organized; also truck drivers, expressmen and truckmen. May the boom continue!

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Mayor McShane, in an interview with a representative of THE ECHO, takes exception to the strictures passed upon him by Mr. P. A. Duffy at the public meeting in the K. of L. Hall the other night. His Worship denies most emphatically that he is in any way responsible for the delay which has occurred in dealing with the Water Tax question, and points to the fact that on several occasions he has placed it upon the order sheet. He says, and with reason on his side, too, that he cannot force the Council to act in the premises, but has done his level best to stir them up to the importance of the question. From his position in the chair he is almost powerless, but has ever taken a deep interest in the matter, and hundreds of poor people can testify that, through his instrumentality, their water rates have either been accepted in instalments or remitted altogether. The Mayor maintains that Mr. Duffy had no cause whatever to drag his name before the public and abuse him the way he did.

In the Church of Notre Dame on Sunday last, Rev. Mr. Pretot, one of the Oblat Fathers, preached a very impressive sermon on labor and its relations to capital, and from his remarks it can be seen that he has made a study of the question and is keenly alive to its importance. In Old France Father Pretot has had many opportunities of witnessing the extent to which workmen have been ground down by the strong arm of capital, their patience under great suffering and their slow but sure growth in unionism—the power under which they are now able to resist further oppression. The preacher spoke of the discontent which pervaded the army of industry and rang out a note of warning to capitalists on the consequences sure to follow a continuance of their unjust dealings with labor. The numerous conflicts between labor and capital in every part of the world

amply bear out the rev. gentleman's belief that the world is now marching on to a revolution compared to which all former revolutions would be child's play. It remains to be seen if the warning will be heeded.

At the meeting of the Harbor Commissioners the other day, Mayor McShane moved a resolution to open the meetings of the Commissioners to the public through the press, but though the request is a very modest one, seeing that they will handle over a million of money contributed by the citizens, it was negatived, the motion not even finding a seconder. Some men have so many axes to grind, through such corporations as the Board of Harbor Commissioners, so many little money-making schemes to engineer, that secrecy is necessary to success. They dare not give the public an opportunity of criticism, so they concoct and deliberate in Star Chamber fashion and then hand the result to the press, but not the details. Where the mistake was made between the Corporation and the Harbor Commissioners was in the former not stipulating, when this money was voted, that every detail of its expenditure should be open. With the experience the Federal Government has had in Quebec Harbor matters, the Government should also insist on the fullest publicity in connection with Montreal Harbor Trust.

Another collision between the rival factions of Irish Nationalists is reported from Limerick, the result being broken heads. The McCarthyites seem to have been victorious, as several of the Parnellites had to be conveyed to hospital. The row arose out of mobbing Dillon and O'Brien on their way to the railway station at the conclusion of a McCarthyite convention held in that city.

Another scandal in high life is at present agitating London society, the parties being Earl Russell, grandson of the celebrated "Lord John," and his countess. The scandal arises out of a suit brought by the countess for judicial separation from her husband, and the revelations made at the trial shed a ray of light upon the inner life of a section of the British aristocracy which makes savory reading for the masses, and gives another handle to the opponents of hereditary legislators. At the close of Wednesday's proceedings in court the Earl was mobbed by the crowd collected within its sacred precincts, and only escaped injury by taking refuge in flight.

Mr. John Jacob Holyoake, in his special correspondence to The Voice, says: The London County Council is taking a step which means a great deal for labor. Two years ago the Council expressed their belief that ground values should be taxed. This produced consternation in the minds of the landlords, who profit by public improvements, to which they never contribute. Now the Council has declared that they will attempt no more improvements until it has revenues from the land values. What John Stuart Mill called the "unearned increment" of wealth, would, if collected to a moderate degree from land owners, provide the County Council with enough money to make London a paradise and erect healthy dwellings in the place of the unsanitary ones now occupied by the working classes.

Mr. Gladstone's speech a few days ago at Birkenhead, near England's great labor centre of Liverpool, contained some very interesting suggestions, coming as they do from so distinguished a student of the social question and one whose sympathies are everywhere known to be on the side of the masses as against the special privileges handed down from feudal days to the aristocratic few. Mr. Gladstone does not believe that there will be any permanent conflict

between capital and labor, as he has too much confidence in the good sense of both sides to think that they would be unable to come to an amicable understanding. He directed attention to the growing feeling in favor of profit-sharing as a plan of adjustment and the difficulties it might involve in seasons where there would be losses instead of profits to divide. He insisted as a principle of justice that "the laborer should be given the same interest in the production as the capitalist." This is the very pith and centre of any proposition which can be made an enduring basis of permanent agreement between employer and employee. The wage system was adapted to conditions prevailing under the old individual system of production, and will doubtless continue to control the relations of employers and employees in small industries and individual cases. But the introduction of the factory system, with its gathering of whole industries into a comparatively few establishments, where thousands of workmen are grouped under the control and subject to the direction of a few, has brought with it new conditions which suggest new methods of distribution as well as of production. Employers on both sides of the Atlantic have begun to recognize the necessity of adapting themselves to the changed conditions, and, as Mr. Gladstone observes, amongst the various plans of adjustment proposed, that of profit-sharing seems to have proved the most inviting. Leaving abstract discussion and coming down to practical counsel Mr. Gladstone appealed to the employers to give the workers, besides an increase of wages and decrease of hours, that which is equally important, "a sense of common feeling with their employers"; to establish a brotherhood of man.

WILLIAMS PIANOS

Endorsed by the best authorities in the world.

5000 Sold in Montreal.

21 Styles to Choose from.

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done in an artistic manner
at reasonable rates.
Also Tuning by the year.

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CARSLLEY'S COLUMN.

A BIG BUY!

Having made a very large and favorable purchase of

Winter Dress Goods

from one of the largest European Dress Goods Houses, we are in a position to offer some

EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS
in both Costume and Dress Materials.

READY.

The whole lot is marked as usual in plain figures and ready for sale.

S. CARSLLEY.

DESCRIPTION LIST.

The following will give an idea of the style of goods and prices:

NUMBER ONE LOT

Consists of Neat Tweed Stripes, plain and mixtures, will be sold at only 7½c

NUMBER TWO LOT

Is composed of Home-spun Effects and are marked at only 10c

NUMBER THREE LOT

Is a mixed lot of Plain, Stripes and Checks; your choice of this lot at 12½c

NUMBER FOUR LOT

This is a very large lot of All-Wool Dress Goods in Plain New Colorings, worth from 30c to 35c, all marked at only 19c

NUMBER FIVE LOT

Is the largest lot of all, and contains both Plain Colors, Plaids and Stripes. Original value from 35c to 40c. Your choice at only 25c

NUMBER SIX LOT

This is a charming lot, principally Plain Colors. Original price from 38c to 50c. All marked down to only 30c.

SIX OTHER LOTS.

There are six other lots, ranging in price from 38c up to 75c per yard.

PLAIN CLOTHS.

Also two cases of Plain Colored Cloth, same as worn in England for Walking Costumes and Riding Habits.

S. CARSLLEY.

SALE BEGINS.

This special sale will be continued all next week.

S. CARSLLEY.

MANTLE DEPARTMENT.

CLOTH COATS

In Black, Gray and Fawn Cloths
In Black, Gray and Fawn Cheviots
All Ladies' SizesIn the following fashionable lengths,
30 inches 32 inches 34 inches

IMMENSE VARIETY

still on hand to select from, Braided and Embroidered, trimmed with Nail Heads, trimmed with Alaska Sable

Trimmed with Beaver

OUR SPECIALTY

Opera Cloaks Ball Cloaks
Newest Vienna Styles

S. CARSLLEY.

MANTLE DEPARTMENT.

WATERPROOFS

Misses Sizes Ladies' Sizes
NEW STYLES

With all the latest improvements in both material and making, and at the same time retaining the most advantageous qualities of past styles.

GUARANTEED WATERPROOF

Cheviot Tweed Waterproof Cloaks
Plain Colors, Fancy Patterns
With Lang Capes

Light, Warm, Odorless and Durable

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Newest English Styles

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MANTLE DEPARTMENT.

NEW GRAY ASTRACHANS

Received by last steamer several pieces of Gray Astrachans in various qualities

Black Astrachans in all qualities
Silk Sealettes Mohair Sealettes

CLOTHS TWEEDS SERGES

All kinds of Cloths in Black and Colors
All kinds of Tweed in New and Fancy Designs and Colorings.All kinds of Serges in Black and Colors
All the above in Spanish Brown.

S. CARSLLEY.

CLAPPERTON'S SPOOL COTTON

Always use Clapperton's Thread.

Then you are sure of the best Thread in market

Clapperton's Spool Cotton.

BLACK GOODS!

S. CARSLLEY'S

Is the best store in Montreal for all kinds of Black and

MOURNING GOODS

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1765, 1767, 1769, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1777,
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