

Hence, the setting down of a cast iron code, for the governance of social morals, and the reclamation of popular abuses, which are supposed or claimed to meet the circumstances of the country, are illegal and absurd when applied to another in which the conditions wholly vary. Here, in England, class legislation is a necessity of its involved conditions of society. Each class, from the circumstance of its growth has acquired special privileges and aptitudes, or suffer under special grievances; their direction of thought diverge widely from each other, and their habits of life differ more widely still.

Demagogues have preached, and charlatans have raved upon this theme, *ad nauseum*. It meant that the rich ruled the poor—legislating against, not for them. The nation grew, however, and commerce swelled to enormous dimensions. The Lords of Trade challenged the Lords of the Soil, and the conflict waged fast and furious. The position of the patrician class was overwhelmingly strong, and had to be stormed. To do this numbers was an important element, and the middle working class joined their forces. "Providence always fights on the side of the heavy battalions," and the result was that the new claimants for favor increased their advantages in every conflict. What had been gained was just this, legislation expanded the facilities for trading, and the middle class grew into the magnitude of princes. They formed a distinct class and acted as a "fender" between the upper and lower class in the incessant assaults of the latter upon the privileges of the former and sometimes on their allies. Class legislation gradually took a new direction. "Representation and taxation should go together," became the watch cry of the Tribunes, who spoke for the *vox populi*. Heretofore labor and its products have paid, by means of an overgrown and elaborate system of indirect taxation, an undue share of the public burdens. Representation for the working classes was asserted after another conflict; nominally they increased their power in the State, really their masters—the cotton-spinners and iron washers did theirs enormously. The special privileges to the lauded aristocracy, has failed to a shadow by this time. Money, cotton, and metals took the place of land as a power in the state. Manchester, instead of Blenheim and Chatsworth, made wars or married them, as its interests dictated. The working man surrendered his right to think to his master and their votes followed still. To purge the constitution still further of all semblance to aristocratic power, in fact to make England as unlike herself as any two dissimilar things could be. A new code of natural obligations and duties was promulgated, and she was withdrawn from Dame Europa's School, and Germany put herself in her vacated place. It had been found expensive to be the arbitrator of others peoples' quarrels, and by the new commercial code of Manchester honor and prestige were not a negotiable commodity. The "working-man," aided the master in carrying this "reform" and in return compelled Parliament still further "to widen the basis of popular power," and generously giving a rate to all the tag-rag and bobtail heretofore omitted. The landlord qualified this Arab by paying the rates upon his hired homestead, and by this means he controls the "working man" and the landlord in his turn is controlled by the master manufacturer. Between them they combine to revolutionize the theory of applied Taxation, and converting all that was indirect into direct taxation. The working man is relieved entirely, and the

unhappy landlord finds that the change has been an unfortunate one for him, in that he now not only pays his own taxes but those of the dear "working man" also.

He has to compete under a system of Free Trade with all the world in all that his land produces, but the free trading manufacturer, who is the author of all this, protest vehemently against the free exchange and sale of pig iron or printed cottons. The land owner now thinks that "Taxation and Representation ought to go together," but the doctrine is deemed old foggyish, and not adapted to "our" altered circumstance. Manchester says so, and Manchester—since John Bright became a Minister of the Crown, is England, as every body knows.

Modern legislation therefore has gone all in one direction. It has the "working man" who requires reforming, coaxing and caressing—the "working man" wants parks, baths and work houses—the "working man" needs protected and defined hours of labor—the streets have to be sewered for his benefit; overworking weakens his energies, and jeopardizes the public health. For his especial benefit compulsory education acts are passed, and his richer neighbors have to fork over their fees for the "working man's" children, and an untaxed breakfast table is a glory achieved in his name.

In this way *Civis Romanus* has been "improved" off the face of the earth, and in its stead they have created that Frankenstein, the working man. What will they do with him? He tears down the Park palings and proclaims a "Republic of England" from the pedestal of Trafalgar square. Mr Gladstone thinks he may be let alone; but he won't ever be let alone, and he is the controlling genius of the Privy Council. Mr. Lowe proposes to tax matches one penny a box. Frankenstein objects for the reason that he would be called upon to pay his share—an obvious violation of the between Gladstone and his porteges that the poor shall govern and the rich shall pay—so it clapped on the income tax instead, and Frankenstein got off scot free. Mr. Bruce proposes to, "rob the poor man of some of his beer," by reducing the number of places where liquor is sold. The minister probably has a suspicion that the suffrage in the hands of dram drinkers who pay nothing in the shape of taxes to the State, is a somewhat dangerous power and very naturally wishes to "regulate the traffic." Forthwith a shout goes up of "CONFISCATION OF VESTED RIGHTS," at the instance of the brewers and the huge landlords who invest in London public houses. The dear "working man," adds his voice to the chorus "Confiscation!" The minister stands aghast; Lowe backed down before, why not Bruce? The dear "working man" is horrified with this attempt of confiscation (of his beer). When the Irish Church was robbed of her property, and Irish landlords of their estates—it was of no consequence, confiscation verily!

I hate shams, and this cry of the working man's *this* and *that* is the most indecent of all shams. They are entirely free of taxation except on the luxuries of tobacco and spirits and I know of no real grievance under which they or theirs suffer at present—except dirt. There is no tax on water, or on soap, yet they use it sparingly, and they are as much entitled as ever to the sobriquet of "the great unwashed." Unfortunately they rule England, and the great landlords in whose proud scutcheons are quarried the records of brave blood spilt in a thousand fights to make England as she is or was, are nowhere.

## PROSPECTUS OF "THE EXPRESS."

The citizens of Toronto are respectfully informed that I shall, on Thursday, the 1st of June, 1871, commence the publication of a Daily Evening Newspaper, called the *Express*. I hope to justify and secure, in connection with this new enterprise, the warm sympathy and support which, during many years of journalistic experience, I have enjoyed, and for which I am sincerely grateful.

The *Express* is intended to satisfy a recognized want in our city. It will be in all respects an evening paper, containing all the news to the latest moment before publication; and will prepare its own reading material instead of reproducing that with which the public have for several hours become familiar. The various departments of the paper will be full and complete. The current dispatches from all quarters will be carefully presented. Especial attention will be devoted to all matters affecting the Government of the City and the general interests of the people. Our Own Correspondence from distant points will be well-informed and interesting. Letters from our readers to the Editor will be published, and their writers will thus be given the opportunity of making their opinions known in the most effective manner. Due space will be given to Commerce and Finance, Literature, Popular Amusements, and the various developments of Religious, Political, Business, and Social Life. Fiction will be represented by the Publication of Serials and short Stories by the best authors, and the Miscellaneous Selections will be compiled with great care. In short, it is hoped that the *Express* will be accepted as a readable, instructive and Representative Newspaper.

The Editorial opinions of the new journal will be offered without fear or prejudice. While criticism may at times be necessarily severe, the rules of personal and journalistic courtesy will never be disregarded. The chief aim will be to inspire public confidence in our sincerity of purpose, and in our desire to promote the general welfare. While commenting upon a wide range of subjects, it is the Public whom we shall endeavour to represent; to their judgment we shall appeal, and it is from them that we shall seek approval and success.

JAMES B. COOK, Proprietor.

Office—67 Yonge Street, Toronto.

## REMITTANCES

Received on Subscription up to Saturday the 3rd inst.

MONTREAL.—Capt. John James Redpath, \$2.  
St. STEPHEN, N.B.—Lieut. T. C. Stevenson, \$2.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Our Montreal Correspondent's Letter came too late for insertion in this week's issue, it will appear in our next.

The excellent Paris correspondent of the *Army and Navy Gazette* adds the following personalities to his previous notices of Dombrowski and Clusoret: "The new occupant of the War Office, Colonel Rossel, is an officer and a gentleman who distinguished himself at the Polytechnic School and during the recent campaign. He is only twenty-six years of age, and is Scotch by his mother's side. I regret to say that he met with a severe accident to-day in consequence of his horse falling with him as he was riding out to inspect the forts."