

Ontario Workman

THE EQUALIZATION OF ALL ELEMENTS OF SOCIETY IN THE SOCIAL SCALE SHOULD BE THE TRUE AIM OF CIVILIZATION.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1872.

NO. 7.

Labor News

The Chicago employers have acceded to the demands of the plasterers for 55 a day. The fallers in Kansas, Mo., have established a co-operative manufacturing plant.

The Labor Reformers of Wisconsin have called a State Convention at Wausau, July 30, to nominate State officers.

Within fourteen months two societies of England have paid for the support of 1000 on a strike \$23,230. Half that sum would have started an immense co-operative manufacturing factory.

The journeymen tailors of New York have formed a new organization, one of the ideas of which is to avoid strikes as much as possible, and submit all disputes to peaceful arbitration.

The varnishers and polishers, German house painters, show cases and desk makers, cabinet makers, wood carvers, and upholsterers of New York, have all granted the eight hours, except in a few shops.

At Leamington the gardeners, butlers, stablemen, and domestic servants, have commenced an agitation for a union to secure and protect them in their rights.

The building operatives at Cambridge, to the number of over 300, struck work lately for the nine hours' system and increased wages.

The long-expected strike in the building trades of Sheffield has taken place, and many hundreds of men are out. The men declare that they will hold out for 50 hours only per week, and wages at the rate of 7 1/2d. per hour all the year round.

The Labor Reformers of Scranton, Pa., polled 1,840 votes on a straight ticket for city officers. The vote for Mayor was as follows: Democrat, 1,997; Labor Reform, 1,840; Republican, 984.

The British miners, in their Amalgamated Association, have resolved to raise a fund by subscription and donation for the purpose of sending to Parliament one or more direct representatives of labor.

At a meeting of the master and journeymen painters held at Wood's International Hotel, London, Ont., last week, the advance of wages asked by the men was acceded to by all the principal employers. The utmost harmony prevailed.

A general meeting of the brass founders of Paisley, asking a reduction of the hours of labor to 51 per week, was held on Friday night, 29th ult., to hear the answers of the employers relative to the circular addressed to them. A compromise of 54 hours per week was unanimously accepted.

The organbuilders of London are agitating for a reduction of the hours of labor from 60 to 54 per week, with a half-holiday on Saturday. A similar movement is in progress in Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Sheffield, and several of our larger towns, and steps are being taken to consolidate the union more effectually.

A branch of female industry, perhaps peculiar to the people of Gattineau Point, Ottawa, is now being prosecuted with great vigour. The lumbermen give a premium of ten cents each for all the "scattered" logs that are put bare inside booms, and many of the hardy women and girls are engaged in the business.

At Northampton, on Wednesday night, a meeting of the shoe manufacturers was held, to take into consideration the demand made by the stitched men for an increase of wages, and after a long discussion the manufacturers decided not to recognize the trade union, but expressed their willingness to consider the matter individually, and if necessary, make an increase accordingly.

At a meeting of the Nine Hour League, Montreal, on Friday last, it was stated that a great many of the large firms in the city would grant the boon asked by their employees if it was universal. One firm in particular, whose representative at the first meeting of masters in the Mechanics Hall was the loudest in his denunciation of the workmen, have resolved to acquiesce in the matter. The world moves, and the capitalists. This is

STRIKE BRANTFORD.—We are glad to be able to state that the "strike" difficulty with the employees of Messrs. Waterous & White is settled. All the departments of their extensive foundry and machine shop are in full working order, with the exception of the boiler shop, which will be in vigorous operation in a few days. These gentlemen endeavored to meet all reasonable requests from their men, and their efforts have been crowned with a deserved success. *Brantford Reporter.*

At a meeting of operative bakers held in Manchester recently it was resolved to demand a reduction of their hours of labor to 60 per week, and an advance of 2s. per week in wages. Should the masters decline to comply with this demand the men will go out on strike. The bakers of Bolton have applied for an advance of 2s. per week to their wages and the abolition of night work. Three out of four of the master bakers of Accrington have granted their men the nine hours' system. The men of the remaining employers struck work.

The journeymen hatters of Brooklyn are organized into Protective Unions, which for strength and influence are not surpassed by those of any other class of workmen. Recently Lodge No. 6 has become incensed at the action of T. C. Warner & Sons, hat manufacturers of Brooklyn, who they say have attempted, by the use of machinery and the employment of persons who have no claim on the trade, having served no apprenticeship, to reduce the wages of the journeymen who worked there, and consequently have declared the establishment of that firm on strike. All the society men have left the establishment and the strike will be prosecuted with vigor.

The Pattern Makers' League, New York, held a meeting on Friday night, which was largely attended and adopted a resolution that on Monday next they demand that eight hours per day shall constitute a day's work, at the standard wages heretofore paid. The Brown-stone Polishers also resolved to strike on Monday. The ship joiners, eight hundred in number, are organizing a strike.

A mass meeting of working men was held in the City Hall, New York, Monday afternoon, in favour of the eight hour movement. About 1,500 persons were present. Resolutions were adopted, and workmen have been sent to Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, &c, to induce co-operation. The Piano-makers have struck for eight hours work at the same pay they had for ten hours.

CANADIAN.

Mr. McGeary, of Brantford, had an infant left on his gate yesterday morning, and five dollars to pay his little way through life. Small favors thankfully received.

Again we have word of the potato bugs. The tramp of their iron heels is heard on the western plains, and the ground apples are opening their eyes in fright at the approach of the ruthless foe. As the *Globe* says of the "Grits" about election time, "they are thoroughly organized and confident of success!"

An old man named John Haigh, who has been living by himself in a house on the 7th concession of Pickering, poisoned himself on Saturday. Deceased has been in a desponding state of mind for some time, and had threatened to take his life. When found he was lying on the bed, and close by on a table stood a small phial containing strychnine, and on a shingle with meat mixed with strychnine lay his pocket-knife and spectacles also.

At Orillia on Thursday morning, while some of Cook & Johnston's men were engaged in breaking up a jam of timber at North Falls, one of the company, a young man about 22 years of age, named Robert Gardner, missed his footing, and falling into the water was carried over the falls and drowned before assistance could reach him. Mr. A. McAulay was standing on a

canoe, and reached the spot two minutes after the young man sank.

On Friday morning at about 2 o'clock, a burglar worked in the store of A. Schwaller & Co., St. Catharines, but having made too much noise did not succeed in his intentions on account of Mr. Schwaller making his appearance in the rear-entrance where the burglar entered, and had to pass in order to make good his escape. Mr. Schwaller not being armed, could not secure the thief. The burglar got nothing, and left his boots behind him.

A man by the name of Craig, who came from the neighborhood of Ottawa, met with a dreadful accident at Durham's saw mill, Barrie, on Monday. He was putting a small belt on a wheel which made 300 revolutions to the minute, when in some way his right arm got caught in the belt, and he was drawn around the shaft. His right arm was torn completely out of the socket. Both his legs were broken, and a hole made as if by a spike through one of them. His ribs were also broken, and, in fact, he was mashed to pieces.

A young man named George Gibson met with a horrible death on Monday evening at Lamont's saw-mill in Egrement. In the absence of the tail-sawyer, he undertook to remove a newly-sawn plank from the gear, but instead of drawing it off in the usual way, he took hold of it at the middle, and in attempting to turn it round, it came in contact with the saw, drawing him in with it, and instantaneously severing his head and one of his legs from the body.

On Monday last, an old woman, the wife of Thomas Swartwout, in the 5th Concession of North Norwich, having been deranged for some time, and laboring under the hallucination that she was doomed to eternal fire, it is said she told her relatives she would make short work of it, and accordingly took some matches out of doors and set fire to her clothes; but when the fire began to take effect on her body she ran screaming into the house, and despite all efforts to save her, she died on the following morning.

FAST TIME ON THE G. W. R.—The condition of the Great Western Railway has been so much improved this spring that the Chicago night express is enabled now to run with regularity from the Bridge to Detroit, the distance of 229 miles, in eight hours and five minutes, being two hours and ten minutes less than the time of the morning express. Already seventy-nine miles have been laid with steel rails, while it is proposed to add about eighty miles more in 1872, and complete the remainder of the line with steel in 1873, whereby the Great Western must retain the high reputation which it always enjoys of being one of the best roads on this continent.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO MANUFACTURERS.—A largely attended meeting of the rate-payers of Stratford was held there on Friday evening, to consider this subject—the Mayor presiding—when the following resolution was moved by Mr. Daly, seconded by Mr. Buckingham, that it is expedient, and be it resolved, to offer freedom from taxation for five years, and bonuses of \$10,000 and \$15,000 respectively, to companies or individuals erecting suitable buildings in town, and employing therein skilled workmen to the number of not less than 80 to entitle them to \$10,000, and 120 to entitle them to \$15,000, and on proposals of a bona fide and satisfactory nature being sent in to the joint committee, the Town Council be requested to submit a by-law, founded thereon, to the vote of the rate-payers. Carried unanimously.

A letter to the *Herald* from Khartoum, states that Sir Samuel Baker, in his passage from Khartoum to Gondokoro, lost one-half of his command, eight hundred men, near Gondokoro. Sir Samuel had five days' fight with the Bari savages, who proved treacherous; and instead of supplying provisions as they agreed, removed everything from the reach of the troops, and assaulted them.

AMERICAN.

Twenty thousand emigrants landed at Castle Garden, New York, last week—the largest weekly number on record.

Several of a gang of laborers, who attempted to burn the villages on the line of the Port Jefferson Railroad, Long Island, have been arrested. They had been discharged for disorderly conduct, and took this method to avenge themselves. Several thousand acres of timberland were burned over.

A frightful accident occurred at Ithaca, New York, on Friday morning. A fire having broken out, a crowd of spectators assembled on the bridge which crossed the creek, and a steam engine was also brought upon the bridge, which suddenly fell in pieces without giving the least warning. Fifteen persons were seriously, if not fatally, injured.

Among the rights which women enjoy in New Hampshire is that of working out their taxes on the highway. A woman in Danville was recently notified to appear and work out on the road her highway tax of four cents. She took up her hoe and toiled vigorously for fifteen minutes, and the tax was cancelled.

On Thursday evening a terrific tornado passed over several counties on the Mississippi River, in the central portion of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. The wind appears to have moved in a south-easterly direction. Accounts from Des Moines County, Iowa, and Adams County, Ill., state that every movable thing in its track was swept away, trees uprooted, fences scattered, telegraph poles and line demolished, and many barns and houses unroofed or blown down. As far as heard there was no loss of life, but the destruction of property was very great.

There is rather a curious case pending in a Massachusetts Court. At Worcester there is a large copperas factory in close proximity to a very beautiful cemetery. The fumes from the factory discolor and corrode the tombstones, and the proprietors of the cemetery have asked for an injunction to shut up the copper works. This brings up a very novel question for decision, whether a graveyard can stop the operations of busy industry in its neighborhood for the sake of preserving its freshness and beauty. The decision is yet to be rendered.

We wish that Captain Kidd had never lived, or that he had died without bequeathing hidden treasures to posterity. That phantom chest of coin has caused more trouble and useless toil in the world than it can possibly be worth. It has the common faculty of phantoms, and appears unexpectedly in all manner of out-of-the-way places, only to allure poor mortals onward to disappointment. Traces of it have just now been discovered by an oysterman near Elizabethport, N. J., but we hope he will not search for it any further. Digging oysters is a more useful and profitable occupation.

There is a new denomination of religionists in Chicago—a church composed wholly of women, which admits none but women to its services. It calls itself the Church of the Holy Maternity. The only article of its creed that is known to the outside world, as yet, is that its members must distribute blankets and clothing to everybody needing them in Chicago next winter; and with this item in hand we are willing to take its other doctrines on trust so far as to say God speed the Church of the Holy Maternity. This blanket-giving religion is a sort of which the world can never have too much, no matter what it may choose to call itself.

A man said to be a relative of Commodore Vanderbilt, shot and mortally wounded Detective Henderson last night, while at his station at Fourth and Mercer Streets. The affair grew out of a remark of Henderson, in the afternoon, concerning two persons arrested for disorderly conduct, whom Henderson's assailant desired to have released. He fled to Vanderbilt's stables, and has not been seen or arrested as yet. The murderer was Mr. Crawford, a brother

in-law of Commodore Vanderbilt. The person he desired to have released was the colored coachman of Vanderbilt's, who was held for assaulting an officer who attempted to arrest him for dragging a white girl into the stables.

Stokes was in court on Friday, but by instruction from his counsel refused to plead, and the court ordered a plea of "Not guilty" to be entered. The District Attorney then moved to proceed to trial, but Stokes' counsel asked for a commission to go to London (England), and examine Dr. B. Eaton, said to be an important witness for the defence, and read a long affidavit in support of the motion. After some discussion the court decided to adjourn the case till the third Monday in June, to give counsel time for the issue and return of the commission. A special plea presented by Stokes' counsel yesterday was overruled.

During the last three days two vessels arrived at New York with smallpox prevailing to a great extent among the steerage passengers. They are detained at quarantine, and the infected passengers sent to Ward's Island. The sailing ship *Europa* arrived on the 21st with 418 steerage passengers, of the voyage 13 deaths occurred from the scourge, and 23 additional cases of infection were on board the sailing ship *Athena*, also from Bremen, which arrived on the 22nd with 474 steerage passengers. Nineteen passengers and two sailors died at sea. Six passengers have died at quarantine, and twenty passengers and two sailors have been sent to the hospital.

FOREIGN.

The annual exodus from the Emerald Isle has set in with greater vigor than ever. It is said that since the commencement of the season, not less than four thousand people leave the country every week, half that number going from Queenstown alone. Whole hamlets and villages are said to be left with only the old and decrepid in them, and some cities, such as Limerick, are going to decay.

THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION.—The Duke of Edinburgh is, on the 5th of June, to open at Dublin one of the most interesting exhibitions of these times, consisting as it will of art treasures. Sir Arthur Guinness—another public-spirited Irishman, like Mr. Dargan in 1853—assumes the whole cost and responsibility, and his efforts have been liberally responded to by the nobility and gentry of Ireland of all creeds and classes. A great artistic treat and decided success is anticipated.

AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY.—A Correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, who says he was an eye-witness, vouchsafes for the following story:—From four o'clock yesterday, until half-past eleven last night, the houses, Nos. 56 and 58 Reverdy road, Bermondsey, were assailed with stones and other missiles coming from an unseen quarter. Two children were injured, every window was broken, and several articles of furniture were destroyed. Although there was a strong body of policemen scattered in the neighborhood, they could not trace the direction whence the stones were thrown.

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL.—The groups of "America," which is now being erected on the north-west pedestal of the Albert Memorial in Hyde Park, London, will complete the groups of sculpture connected with the edifice. America will be represented by a female figure riding through the prairie grass. Another figure on one side personifies the United States directing the progress of the continent, whilst on the other Canada accompanies her, pressing the rose of England to her breast. These figures are in all action. Behind them are two seated male figures, representing South America and Central America. The group is by Mr. Bell. The other angle groups are "Europe," by the late Mr. Maccoll; "Asia," by Mr. Foley; and Africa, by Mr. Theed. They are all in Campanella marble, so called from its resonance, as being extremely hard, it gives out a sound like a bell when struck.