The Colonist.

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THE LABOR QUESTION.

Rev. Percival Jenns' Sermon, Last Sunday Evening, on the Eight-Hour Movement.

Rev. P. McF. Macleod Also Makes the Labor Question the Subject of His Sermon.

REV. MR. JENNS' SERMON.

In compliance with the request of the Trades Assembly, Rev. Percival Jenns, on Sunday evening, made the labor question the basis of his remarks, dwelling particularly upon the eight hour movement, which received his support. His sermon, which is given in full, was listened to with close attention by the entire congregation, which would, no doubt, have been much larger had the subject of the sermon been announced in advance.

Taking for his text I. Chron., xxii., 16, and II. Chron., x., 4, the reverend gentleman said:

"On Sunday last we were with King David during the time that he was making extensive preparations in the building of the renowned temple at Jerusalem. The gold, the silver, and the brass and the iron, that he accumulated during his long reign, may fitly be taken to represent capital, and the men of Israel, together with the strangers that were among them, as labor. The first of our texts furnishes the advice that the aged monarch gave to his son Solomon when he made him king over Israel. The second text describes the effect that the close adherence to this advice had upon labor at the close of Solomon's reign. On the other hand, we must not overlook what the union of capital and labor had, in the meantime, produced. The kingdom had risen to great glory. The temple was the joy and pride of the nation. Merchant fleets had been built in the Red Sea, and in the Mediterranean, and had covered the seas, bringing home the treasures of foreign lands. Jerusalem had become a city of palaces, and wealth flowed through its streets, that silver had lost its value to such an extent that it was nothing counted of during Solomon's reign. But this very prosperity was not without danger. Men were tired of the labor by which it had been produced, and not unnaturally longed for repose and rest, so that no sooner had they laid the wise king in his tomb than they demanded of his son, that he should ease them somewhat from the grievous servitude of his father, and release them from the heavy yoke that for a period of forty years had been placed upon them. The conflict between labor and capital is as old as society itself. It dates back to that period when men first began to live together, and for mutual benefit organized a division of labor. At the dawn of reason it became clearly manifest that so long as every man endeavored to do everything for himself, without being in any way dependent upon others, no advance could be made, no battle won over the rude forces of nature. With the growth of intellect it was seen that the earth is one vast treasure-house, capable of yielding immense comfort and gratification to beings who have wisdom enough to appreciate them. But these treasures were all in an undeveloped state, and that before they could be of service to man another ingredient was necessary, that was labor. Thus the earth, plus labor, would yield harvest; wool and other fibres, plus labor, clothing; crude ore, plus labor, metal; and so on till the highest glory and refinement could be obtained. Now, the point of dispute has always been, who should supply the second portion of this compound? And, further, when the two articles were at hand, viz.: nature and labor, how should they be so blended as to produce the desired result? Metallic ores and labor would never have formed a steam engine without the original genius of the inventor, and thus we see that a third element is needed, the element of mind, or commanding intelligence. Hence when we look at any great and powerful empire where the arts and sciences have vied with each other to pro uce wealth, comfort and refinement, we perceive that the whole has been brought about by the union of these three forces, viz., nature, labor and mind. The next question is, in what proportion are these three ingredients found? The first is co-extensive with the earth itself and the light that shines upon it. The second is limited by the strength and endurance of men and animals, together with the stores of energy that the former are capable of making nature yield. The third is a much scarcer article, as few men possess inventive genius, originality or power to lead; without which even skilled labor can accomplish little. Those in fact, who are able to tap new sources of energy, and thereby render assistance to millions are exceedingly rare. Now the question arises; in the distribution of rewards that the world yields, should all men receive alike, or should distribution be made accordingly as men are differentiated from each other by the possession of the rarer gift? Gold brings a high price on account of its scarceness. Large diamonds and rubies are of immense value because in the world there are few of them; and it seems but natural to suppose that the rarest gem of all should fetch the highest price in the market, if sold at its money value. There have, of course, been, and are now, men like Michael Faraday, who have lived and died so that the nations might be enriched by the splendour of their intellects; but we have no right to compel or expect all men to do he same. It is human nature to hold on to all that can be grasped. Nor do I think that the legislative powers of any country will be ever able to interfere with the rights of personal property so as to put all men upon one common level. When in the early church we read that on account of tr ubled times men "had things common," they gave up their wealth of their own free choice, that they might obtain the approval of God. Nor do I believe that there will ever be any power on earth that will cause the rich to relieve the wants of the poor, save the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Revolutions there have been, revolutions there doubtless will be in the future, but such violent convulsions will never produce equality.

My conviction is that a highly Christian and scientific education for all men will alone solve the difficulties between labor and capital. Raise the mental standard of the people. Let every youth learn that "knowledge is power," and that there are rude forces of nature about him that he may enlist and compel to do slavish work for him. That these forces work without murmur or fatigue, and that we are only now beginning to tap our inexhaustible supply of energy, and he will soon discover the means of lessening the hours of daily work. Already is steam doing as much work as the whole working population of the globe! Follow in the path where this leads, and let steam and electricity do all that is painful in labor, and men may then with justice expect a full day's pay for a half day's work. Let the time come speedily when unskilled laborers shall rest among the fossils of the past; let all men be artisans and skilled workmen and the rest of the world's work be accomplished by unthinking force. Then every man may sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree and spend a large portion of each day in the improvement of his mind. In that, I mean to say, that a skilled workman is not a laborer, or throw disparagement upon mere work. Labor is a blessing, not a curse. If God intended men to live without work, he would have made their clothes grow upon their backs, and furnished houses to spring out of the earth. God who has made the earth, sea, and air has made nothing to be idle. Employment in some shape or other would seem to be appointed to every living thing. The highest angels of heaven have their work, and the most minute of the earth's insects must be busy or perish. All nature lifts her voice against idleness. As far as the eye can penetrate into the great deps of space, all is upheld in being and order by constant agitation. It is the running water that keeps trees and the air fanned by winds that is wholesome. Christ speaks of His Father as a worker when he says, "My Father worke h hitherto," and he adds, "and I work." No man ever worked harder than Jesus, both physically and mentally. I am myself exceedingly fond of work, and I believe all healthy men are. If it brings fatigue, the rest that follows is sweet and refreshing, and the two combined conduce to join a fine, healthy, physical frame, without which even mental endowments are almost worthless.

With regard to the "eight hour question," I think when it can be accomplished without forming a stumbling block in the way of all progress, it is most desirable, and I fully sympathize with those who desire more time for mental culture, and the gaining of more knowledge of the very wonderful and beautiful world in which God has placed us. Our time here is very short, and it should not all be taken up in making bricks. Let us see rather the full superstructure rise, whose towers shall reach to heaven.

Before, however, this happy state of things can be brought about, there are other questions that have to be solved. Working men who join unions are not the only class suffering from long hours. Merchants, storekeepers and many professional men have much longer hours than they, and are often engaged in work much less interesting and healthful. There is also a class that is much nearer related to the working men than these, —I allude to their wives. In excluding cheap forms of labor we have excluded the only possibility of these receiving any help whatever, and I am perfectly satisfied that a woman who has to attend to a family of children, as well as prepare her husband's meals, and is engaged at this work from early morning till late at night, knows more of the drudgery of life than her husband, who works at his handicraft for a period of nine hours, and is free. If complaint is raised against work, where are we to find the remedy for this? The women of some nations have sought their own remedy; but alas, it is one fatal to national prosperity, and one that in the long run must bring about the extinction of those peoples.

In conclusion, let me add that while I think the object of the present agitation a most desirable one, I believe the time chosen for it in this province is inopportune. I would rather see the object successfully accomplished first in older countries. A new country like our own stands most in need of labor, and nothing but labor can develope the vast resources and immense treasure that God has placed within our reach. To kick against this is to kill the goose that lays the golden egg. In fact, no man should dream of coming to a new country who is not prepared to do more work than would be expected from him elsewhere. I believe that in no part of the world are working men as well off as they are here. The larger portion of them are living in their own houses and cultivating their own gardens. Their children receive a most excellent education free of cost, and the highest positions in the state are thrown open to them. These, together with exquisite scenery and a lovely climate, should not be lightly thought of; indeed I have often heard it expressed that British Columbia is "the working man's paradise."

REV. MR. MACLEOD'S SERMON.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian church was crowded to its fullest capacity on Sunday evening, many of those present being members of the Victoria Trades Assembly. Rev. Mr. Macleod having read the 58 h chapter of Isaiah, selected as his text the sixth verse, viz:

"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To unloose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?" He said: The prophet in this passage contrasts the false religion with the true. The false is anxious with regard to outward forms, and divorces religion from the daily life and conduct. The true sees no value in these forms apart from the practical outcome of them in deeds, not in empty words. The same contrast is to be drawn to-day between the religion of ritual and the religion of power. There are some who limit the sphere of the pulpit to what they call the preaching of the gospel, that is to say, to the statement of certain truths which can be listened to or slept under with an easy mind. Isaiah's gospel would not have suited these friends for it was practical, and consisted in undoing heavy burdens and letting the oppressed go free. The pulpit has to do with whatsoever things are honest, with whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely and whatsoever things are of good rep rt.

The request made me by the Trades Assembly gave me a great deal of pleasure. First, because its appeal to the ministers of the gospel is made in the name of Jesus Christ, who they declare "to have done infinitely more than all other agencies since combined towards the amelioration of the condition of oppressed humanity." I for one could not but give a respectful and courteous acknowledgment to a request so put below, and men may then with justice expect a full day's pay for a half day's work. Let the time come speedily when unskilled laborers shall rest among the fossils of the past; let all men be artisans and skilled workmen and the rest of the world's work be accomplished by unthinking force. Then every man may sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree and spend a large portion of each day in the improvement of his mind. In that, I mean to say, that a skilled workman is not a laborer, or throw disparagement upon mere work. Labor is a blessing, not a curse. If God intended men to live without work, he would have made their clothes grow upon their backs, and furnished houses to spring out of the earth. God who has made the earth, sea, and air has made nothing to be idle. Employment in some shape or other would seem to be appointed to every living thing. The highest angels of heaven have their work, and the most minute of the earth's insects must be busy or perish. All nature lifts her voice against idleness. As far as the eye can penetrate into the great deps of space, all is upheld in being and order by constant agitation. It is the running water that keeps trees and the air fanned by winds that is wholesome. Christ speaks of His Father as a worker when he says, "My Father worke h hitherto," and he adds, "and I work." No man ever worked harder than Jesus, both physically and mentally. I am myself exceedingly fond of work, and I believe all healthy men are. If it brings fatigue, the rest that follows is sweet and refreshing, and the two combined conduce to join a fine, healthy, physical frame, without which even mental endowments are almost worthless.

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REV. MR. REED'S SERMON.

Ecclesiastes I, 10—"What profit hath a man of all his labor which he taketh under the sun."

This was the text chosen by Rev. Dr. Reid for the basis of his evening sermon in the Reformed Episcopal church on Sunday last. In answer to the question contained in the text, the reverend gentleman continued, quoting further from Sacred Writ: "In all labor there is profit," Proverbs xiv., 23; "The sleep of the laboring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much," Eccles. v., 12.

In introducing his sermon, Rev. Dr. Reid remarked that the subject had been chosen in pursuance of a request made by the Trades' Assembly some weeks ago, but which could not be answered sooner. The text was selected from the "royal preacher," because in his large experience in the wisdom and folly of the world he had said many things in his books of profits to all classes, and of great advantage to the working people. In fact a very profitable Bible reading could be made from his books, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, culling those portions referring specifically to the sons of toil—their duties, their difficulties, their dangers and their hopes. There were confessedly difficulties in handling such a subject as this, although we very cheerfully and joyfully apprehend that there is much hope for the working portion of society arising from the Spirit of the Times and the progress of the past in their favor. For example, the forefathers of the first part of this century, who were accustomed to much longer hours and heavier toil, before machinery was brought to lighten the burdens of manual labor. No prophet would have been accepted who, at the beginning of this century, predicted that nine or ten hours would become the ordinary length of a day's labor. Yet such was the fact, in which all right-minded people rejoice, and from which we have good ground to expect that still further amelioration may be expected in the near future. We would strongly advise all classes, especially the industrial classes, to read the lives of some of the great men of this century, who have risen from the ranks by their industry and successful efforts in conquering their circumstances. For example, the brief biography of the brothers Chambers, publishers, who did so much by their literature in the days of their own succ ss to encourage and enlighten the industrious laborer. Robert Chambers had the misfortune to be thrown upon his own resources at thirteen years of age. At fourteen he began a five years' apprenticeship in the book trade, having long hours, hard labor and only one dollar per week wages during all those five years. Yet not only did he independently maintain himself without help from his relatives who might have been able to aid him had he submitted to such assistance. Although his daily toil, much like that of a porter—he carried parcels to all parts of Edinburgh district—did not allow him to sit down during the entire day, he not only managed after his long hours to carry on his own education, but also to aid his brother, and ultimately to establish the world-renowned firm of Chambers & Co. Robt. Chambers said, as he looked back on that early period of his life, that there seemed no gloom but much gladness in it, in spite of its poverty and privations at times. There are other examples of successful men in the larger walks of life who have, with long hours and hard l bor and small wages to contend with, overcome their difficulties and left their honorable marks upon the pages of history. We merely mention such examples as encouragement to those who are aspiring to noble aims in life and to induce kindliness and consideration of one class for another, of capitalists and laborers, as being naturally dependent on each other for the social comforts of life. Prince Albert, "the good," gave prominence to that sentiment, when he said, concerning domestic helpers, that the ablest of those who enjoy the comfort of their ministry in the home, was by no means exhausted when even liberal wages were allowed; that this spirit of gratitude and hearty appreciation should be manifested in addition to all monetary returns. Following his good example many have been led to speak and write in the same way since his day. Now, a more kind y feeling exists between the different classes of society than formerly, even within the memory of some living men, and by a class of Christian workers too numerous to mention in modern sermons. Lectures and writings have been specially devoted to the advocacy of the claims of the industrious classes, reviving the ancient and Divine spirit that breathes in the Word of God, both new and old testaments, centring in the life and lessons of Our Lord, the model workingman and the friend of all that labor. In his teachings there are laid down the principles that if fairly applied would ultimately effect the settlement of the difficulties that exist, but that we believe are lessening, between Capital and Labor. One line might suffice from his Golden Rule to regulate and remove all necessary difficulties—that is, "All things ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them, likewise, for this is the Law and the Prophets." Sometimes there is a difficulty among workingmen themselves, arising from jealous or imperfect views of one another. Each class is apt to imagine that all the difficulties of a worker are to be found in his own particular trade or calling, and to be careless about the disadvantages of others. Sometimes it was grievously felt that those who, in what was called the lucky turn of fortune's wheel, were brought to the surface and became in their turn employers of labor, were not always the most considerate towards their former fellow-workmen; and even with those who remained in the honorable ranks of Industry, and are themselves employers of labor—for all of us have to be served in time and turn, —are they always as considerate as they might be of the interests of those who wait upon them in shop or store? And as to the time and privileges of workers in other departments? An example—In the evening, holiday and Sunday rest, so precious and so much needed by all—"Happy is he who condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth." Sometimes, too, there was a lack of sympathy with laborers who were their co-workers without being recognized as such—the toiler with the brain is as much of a laborer as the man of horny hand, and often less remunerated and more severely taxed by the nature and length of his labors, without the enjoyment of these natural compensations that come with moderate, healthful, physical exercise. The more fatigued the brain worker is, the less he is able to rest, whereas, "the sleep of the laboring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much." Besides, the customs of society in regard to those who are not actively engaged in manual labor exact what is called respectability of living, of dress, and of circumstances which are not only inconvenient and expensive at all times, but severely so when misfortunes come, as they do to all. So much has this been felt in old England—say in the years '32 and '83—during the commercial crisis when thousands and tens of thousands of clerks and commercial assistants were unemployed for long periods without feeling free to apply for a share of the aids that were more readily granted to needy manual laborers. This time of depression moved the hearts of some of the wealthiest class in the old land, including our beloved Sovereign. There are silent secret sorrows because of circumstances that are harder to bear and harder to relieve than the trials that are seen in the daylight. As ministers we are able to, and glad to respond to such a claim as the one made by the Trade's Assembly, for our mission under our Master is to be the friends of mankind—not of any one class, but of man as man,—and this fact has been recognized in the very reques: that has been made. All pastors know the faith of the workingmen by the claims that are made on them for sympathy and visitation and help in the dark hours of domestic sorrow. At such time we not only gladly fulfill the obligation which the Supreme Lord has imposed, but we obtain a deeper insight into the true nobility of human nature as seen in the day of tribulation. "One touch of nature makes the world akin." From our knowledge of and interest in mankind, we are truly hopeful for the future; we dare say "the former times were better than these," and above all we cannot permit that unfair judgment be passed upon artizans because of some painfully conspicuous, yet exceptional, cases of indolent and intemperate members of the useful class. As we began so would we end, for application is easy and natural in the light of God's word. If all would bravely bear and do their part, and all would try to breathe the spirit of the Lord of all, then surely the golden days that are yet to c me would hasten onward. We have no hard and fast rules of reform for amelioration, for human nature is not like a mere machine; it cannot be and ought not to be driven by force. Mistakes with the wisest may be expected and borne with charitably, if the intention is honest. As a poet of the people says:

"I love all plans to help the poor
Each cannot be the best.
Yet each may be to some one, more
Than all the others blest."

May we ourselves be found faithful in our lot when the Lord and judge of all shall call us into His presence.

WINTER WANTED IN SUMMER.

Click, click, goes the simple telegraph key, meaning nothing to the uninitiated, but in reality putting a stop to a gentleman's extensive oriental tour, and reducing the steamship Batavia's list by just one passenger, on her trip to China. Saturday last, Provincial Police Sergeant Langley received a telegram from Detective M. C. Sullivan, of Portland, asking him to arrest a man of several aliases, one of which is Winter. He was formerly a steward on one of the Sound steamers, but he is also a shorthand and typewriter. A description of the man was given, and the object for which he is wanted. Sergeant Langley telegraphed to Officer Redgrave, who is now in Vancouver, but he being absent, Sergeant Hayward took the matter in hand and found his man on board the Batavia, Sunday night, his ticket reading to Yokohama. This done, a telegram was sent to Victoria for particulars. Then the wire between Victoria and Portland was kept busy till everything was made clear and instructions received to hold the man till Mr. Sullivan arrives, which he will by this evening's Kingston. The telegram settling the matter was not received until within an hour and a half of the time put down for the steamer to sail, and the telegram from Mr. Langley to Vancouver was made to slide along the line at a good rate. Altogether it was about as quick a piece of business in the detective line as could be wished, and it will serve to illustrate how quickly the mechanism of the law can work when set in motion by energetic men.

Winter is wanted for having forged the name of J. Selwood for $2,000 on the National Bank of Tacoma.

Mr. Taylor has been retained to represent the bank if the prosecution is conducted here, but if Winter saves all concerned the trouble and expense of extradition matters will be much simplified.

Sergt. Langley went over to Vancouver this morning to bring back the man whose identity will be proved before he is sent back.

ESQUIMALT ECHOES.

A new coal shed has been placed alongside the graving dock, with five bunkers.

The Globe hotel is being painted and repaired inside and out. A quantity of new furniture has been obtained and Host Fisher is doing his best to increase the popularity of his hostelry.

Mrs. Howard is putting on a new promenade gallery, the old one having got past repair, and her old and appreciated establishment is being made to put on a new and improved appearance.

The town is almost all the time thronged with visitors, and Officer Campbell has his hands pretty full, although the new comers are generally orderly. They mostly come to go over the ships of the squadron, with whose armament and appointments—particularly those of the Warspite—they are astonished and delighted.

It is expected that the Costa Rica will shortly enter the dry dock for repairs and other alterations.

The Sunday school picnic of St. Paul's church was held on Saturday on Stewart's farm.

The graders on the Esquimalt extension of the street car line have reached the Coach and Horses inn, and the tracklaying is rapidly approaching the same point. This places the line more than half way. Cars will be running within 90 days.

A Confirmation service will be held at St. Paul's church on Sunday, when five or six persons will receive the laying on of hands.

Paul E. Wirt's Fountain Pens, at T. N. Hibben & Co.'s.

ROYAL

BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitudes of low test short-weight alum or phosphate powders. *Sold only in cans.* ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 107 Wall Street, New York. aa15-1y

THIRTY-SECON

EUROPEAN GOSSI

Conservative Members Growing less Over the Prolongation of the Session.

Government Getting Rid of th Personal Pensions Paid fo Nominal Services.

Henry M. Stanley Making S Progress Towards Recover Ex-King Milan's Debts.

THE PROLONGED SESSION.

LONDON, July 31.—The Conservat growing restless on account of t prolongation of the parliamentary ses a majority of them have caused a h convened to Lord Salisbury that if detained much longer they will ins a recess extending until January in November, as contemplated by the ment.

PERPETUAL PENSIONS.

The English treasury is engaged ting rid of perpetual pensions nominal services. The Duke of St. Albans, ranger was appointed h the hawks by King James II., 2 ago, is to receive a lump sum of $ full compensation of about $2,000 This office has been a sinecure conditions, including that paid to t of Hamilton, as keeper of the Roy ish palace, of Holyrood.

STANLEY'S HEALTH.

Dr. Parke, who has been in at upon Stanley since the explorer's re cents his services as no longer n and that Stanley is making splen gress towards complete recovery.

EUROPEAN CROP PROSPECTS.

The reports from abroad regar general crop prospects are bad. In especially in the central and nort partments, the cold nights and the co wet days are bringing about disast sults. In Germany, Switzerland, and Holland, the constant rain temperature are seriously affecting in Austria and Hungary, the cocks favorable and there are pro ood yields. A telegram from Odes is, announces that the continuo wet—the threatens to injure all cr generally the cereals.

EX-KING MILAN'S DEBTS.

Ex-King Milan's continued stay made is explained by the knowle e cannot return to his usual and aunts owing to the enormous deb ng over him. In Paris alone he 0,000f., and Servia is the only sef ed. It is now known the out outburst against the goverm the result of the regent's refusal im an advance on his annuity of

NOT ENGAGED.

An authoritative and positive even to the reported engagement gnes Huntington to Rt. Hon. lumble Ward, Earl Dudley.

CABLE NEWS.

A Question of Precedence

LONDON, July 31.—In the Hous ons to-night Right Hon. W. overnment leader, refused to opinion in answer to the question ardinal Manning or any other pr have precedence after memb oyal Family." The governmen tend to introduce a bill for the the question. The enquiry was the recent statement of the ales that Cardinal Manning wo ter rank next to the Prince rved on commissions of inquiry, mes Ferguson, under foreign ated that the government had spatch from Buenos Ayres to st everything was becoming reet traffic had been resumed. ated that the British Charge d' Petersburg had wired the g at nothing fresh was under con Russia, aiming to deprive th y of their present privileges ussell, Unionist, asked the g ether any papers existed in th lice relating to Errington's ome during the Gladstone go h. Hon. W. H. Smith promised quiries on the subject. Glad here was never anything in the e mission to the Vatican from a ent with which he had been com

Goodwood Races.

LONDON, July 31.—The race oodwood Cup, two miles and a on by Col. North's five year Philomel," Noel Fenwick's thre hestnut filly "Golden Maze," s ammond's four year old Crimes" third. The race for emorial Stake, two year o uarters of a mile, was won by J rd's bay colt "Cuttlestone;" aird's chestnut filly "Phyllida the Duke of Westminster's bay col hird. There were five starters.

Emin Fighting the Native

ZANZIBAR, July 31.—Emin Pash severe fight with the Massai. M atives were killed. They we ith Maxim guns. Twelve hu heir cattle were seized. Emin s attle with Ugogos, defeating rent slaughter.

No Frenchmen Wanted Th

PARIS, July 31.—The Sicle s g of the military school a ing relatives at Mu rested, handcuffed, marched to nd put aboard a train for Bel t was fined 50 marks for ying the police of the pres nchman in his house.

Disorders in Buenos Ayr

BUENOS AYRES, July 31.—Disor re in the agricultural distri