

=The Echo=

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MONTREAL, April 25, 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.

Subscribers, who have not already done so, will oblige by remitting at their earliest convenience.

THE POWER OF ORGANIZED LABOR.

The late New Zealand elections demonstrate in a remarkable degree the power of organized labor in the political field when intelligently directed. In the city of Dunedin three labor candidates—not the professional working-man, but the genuine article—beat three of the most influential capitalists of the city by big, rousing majorities, a journeyman shoemaker heading the poll with 3,303 votes, the highest number of votes received by a capitalist—one Allen, who beat Sir Robert Stout in 1887—being 2,486. The parliament has been literally shaken to pieces, one-half of the present Assembly being new members and a large number of these are wage-earners. At Invercargill a journeyman tailor ran in hands down, while at Heathcote, an important constituency, another shoemaker astonished the capitalists by getting there first. There is nothing whatever to hinder the workingmen of Canada from doing the same thing. Too long they have allowed themselves to be led by the nose by the ward heeler and political hummers of both parties, and it is high time they take independent action. There has been some talk among the leaders of the labor movement in this city of forming a political association with a platform which would be acceptable to adherents of both political parties, and on which unity of action could be obtained. We hope to see the movement resolve itself into something more than talk, and that ere long a powerful factor in politics will be in the field.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Following the example set by Canada over twenty years ago the representatives of the people of Australasia have adopted a constitution for the federation of all the colonies into one commonwealth, and it now only remains to be approved by the popularly elected legislatures of at least three colonies to bring a new nation into existence. The approval of Great Britain will, of course, have to be obtained, but this is a mere formality. What follows is a short history of the movement:

In 1853 William C. Wentworth urged a federation of the colonies, Henry, now Sir Henry Parkes, then

opposed it. He is now the leader of the movement. After Wentworth the subject was not taken up until 1883, when a partial scheme of union was framed in Sydney by delegates from the colonies. But it was only a makeshift. In 1885 the British Parliament established a Federal Council of Australasia, consisting of two members from each self-governing colony and one from each Crown colony. The Crown delegated certain powers, and the colonies had the privilege of delegating their powers; but the Council had no authority in any colony unless specially given, and New South Wales, South Australia and New Zealand would have nothing to do with it. Delegates from the other colonies met in 1886 and 1888, and again in 1889, when South Australia joined. No organic union was effected. Arrangements for a military and naval system were made, and for discussion by representatives of all Australasian questions of general interest, but nothing more.

In February, 1890, Sir Henry Parkes brought about a federation conference, attended by delegates from New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania and Fiji. An address to the Crown was adopted, declaring that in the opinion of the conference the best interests and the present and future prosperity of the Australasian Colonies would be promoted by an early union under the Crown, and recommending a national Australasian convention empowered to report an adequate scheme for a federal constitution.

The recent convention was accordingly authorized, and its work is now complete. The constitution which it adopts calls the Colonies States, and the Federation "The Commonwealth of Australia." The Legislature is to consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives. Eight Senators from each State are to be chosen by the State Legislature for terms of six years, half to retire every three years. Members of the House are to be elected every three years, according to population, each State being entitled, however, to not less than four. The Chief Executive is to be a Governor-General, appointed by the Crown and advised by a council of seven Ministers, selected from among the members of either House. He is to be Commander-in-Chief, and he may veto legislation. There is a Supreme Court similar to ours, except that in some cases an appeal lies to the Crown. The Legislature may establish uniform tariffs, and until it does so, present tariffs are to remain as to foreign countries, but entire free trade between the States is guaranteed, to take effect at once. Surplus revenues are to be distributed among the States. Amendments of the constitution are to be made by a majority vote of the Legislature and of constitutional conventions of a majority of the States.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A bill to amend the Ontario election law by making bribery punishable by six months' imprisonment without the option of a fine was killed the other day in the Ontario Legislature by a vote of 32 to 25. The bill had one novel feature about it—it proposed to make the briber and the person bribed equal, both being liable to the same punishment. Possibly this was what squelched the measure—politicians, while willing enough to run risks by breaking the law where a paltry fine only is involved, do not care to do so when there is a chance of being cooped up for six months. The premier, Mr. Mowat, opposed the bill, but promised that before another election the existing laws would be revised and more stringent measures enacted against corrupt practices.

There is evidence of abundance of work for gentlemen of the legal robe in the election courts this season from the

large number of protests which have been entered against members returned as elected at the late general elections. Among those who will have to sustain the purity of their election in court are, at least, three ministers—Sir John Macdonald for Kingston, Sir John Thompson for Antigonish, and Hon. C. H. Tupper for Pictou. Amongst the charges preferred against Sir John Thompson, in addition to bribery and corrupt practices, are the use of the Intercolonial Railway and intimidation of certain voters by means of spiritual and temporal threats.

The German Trades Regulation bill is altogether too one-sided to give satisfaction or to allay the bitter feeling now existing between capital and labor throughout the empire. One of the most obnoxious clauses is that providing for an indemnity to be paid by workmen leaving their employment without giving requisite notice, the reactionary nature of which is emphasized by the fact that no corresponding penalties are provided for against employers who subject their workmen to unfair treatment. The adoption of the principle that the employer has superior rights over the workman stamps it as a class measure, and the Socialist organs justly denounce it as accentuating the antagonism between capital and labor. Until employer and employee are placed on an equal footing in this regard the bill will never be acceptable to the body of the people or put matters in any better position than they are at present.

In the eyes of the law a Senator appears to be a very important individual. For throwing a handful of gravel at the sacred person of Senator Pelletier a man has been sentenced in the criminal court of Quebec to pay a fine of \$50 besides having to undergo a severe lecture on the "enormity" of the offence. The man evidently selected the wrong party to sling mud at. He should have confined the practice to his wife's person, if he has one, on whom he could have indulged his mud-slinging proclivities to his heart's content, and thrown a couple of black eyes into the bargain, and the probabilities are he would have got off with a fifty cent fine.

We notice that application has been made to the City Council for a grant to provide music in the squares during the summer months, and that it is likely to be favorably considered. We believe the Council would be quite justified in giving a money grant for such a purpose and that such action on their part would be generally approved by the citizens. Our public squares are the breathing places of a large number of our toiling population and their families, and anything that will help to add to the pleasure of a saunter through the beautiful squares should be done, and what greater pleasure can there be than to listen to the music of a well conducted band? We trust our City Fathers will deal with the application in a liberal spirit, so that with the springing of the flowers we may also welcome the music of the band.

The street car employees of Detroit, Mich., struck work the other day, and the various lines closed. In several places rails were torn up and barricades of blocks were put upon the tracks, presumably by the strikers or their too sympathetic friends.

The journeymen tailors of Ottawa struck work in the beginning of the week, consequent upon the rejection by the bosses of a demand for an increase of wages. The men stated they were willing to compromise.

By the explosion of a powder magazine about four kilometers from Rome, the Eternal City was thrown into great consternation, much damage to property resulted, several persons were killed and a large number injured.

Among the prominent buildings injured was the Vatican and the Parliament House. In the former several of the famous historical stained glass windows were shattered, and the cupola on the latter fell down with a crash. About forty small houses were reduced to ruins. The force of the explosion may be faintly realized when it is stated that there were about 265 tons of powder stored in the magazine. It was rumored at one time that the explosion was the result of an Anarchist plot, but this has been officially denied, and it is now stated it was purely accidental.

Ballington Booth, Marshal of the Salvation Army, in a lecture to a large audience at Baltimore, says that unless there is soon a great change in New York, the slums of which he recently inspected in disguise, it will be as bad as ever Darkest England was.

A United States judge, in charging a jury recently, said that a doctor owes the same duty to a charity patient as to any other. He may decline to visit patient without pay; but, having undertaken the service, the fact that he is to receive none does not qualify his liability respecting the degree of care and skill he must exercise.

The excitement throughout the coke region of Pennsylvania still continues unabated, and scenes of violence and bloodshed are frequently witnessed. The women take an active share in the disturbances and incite the men to resistance. Eviction of the strikers from their homes is being practiced on a large scale, and these harsh measures have tended still more to enrage the people. The other day while the sheriff was making some evictions he was attacked by a Hungarian woman. She fired at him with a revolver several times, wounding him in the leg. He closed with her, and after a desperate struggle which caused the crowd to collect, took the weapon away from her. The woman became infuriated and acted like a mad person. She caught up an axe and attacked the sheriff, cutting him seriously on the foot. Fearing a fatal termination of the encounter the sheriff then shot the woman, wounding her in several places. After being shot, the woman forced her way into a house where an eviction was in progress and renewed the attack, this time on the sheriff's deputies. She was knocked down with a club.

THEY COME HIGH.

The cost of the British House of Commons to the country last year, after deducting the fees (\$110,000) received during that period, was nearly \$625,000. Mr. Peel's salary as Speaker was \$25,000, with his official residence, coals and candles thrown in as extras. Mr. Courtney, as Chairman of Committees, drew \$12,500 without extras. Mr. Palgrave, Chief Clerk, received \$10,000, an official residence and perquisites in the shape of fire and light. The Sergeant-at-Arms was given \$6,000, a residence and the usual extras. His deputy received \$4,000. The House of Lords costs the British tax payers \$355,000 yearly. "The Lord High Jobber," as the present Lord Chancellor is irreverently called, draws \$20,000 as Speaker of the House of Lords, and \$30,000 extra as President of the Supreme Court and of the Chancery Division. The Black Rod, who is a very old retired Admiral drawing a handsome half pay, receives \$10,000 a year; in addition has a magnificent suite of apartments in the Palace and free coals and candles to boot. Old Admiral Drummond's labors are considered by the noble lords to be so onerous that they have provided him with an assistant, called the Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod. His duties appear to consist in wearing a court dress and lying asleep in a soft cushioned pew in the gilded chamber during their lordships' deliberations, and for this he gets \$5,000 a year.

MEN'S TAN AND CANVAS LOW SHOES at Allan's. Ladies' and Misses' Tan Low Shoes at Allan's. Our assortment of Boots and Shoes for spring and summer wear is now complete, and we invite inspection. Our prices will be found the lowest in the market. John Allan, 659 to 665 Craig street.

JOHN MURPHY & CO.'S
ADVERTISEMENT.

Ladies' Morning Wrappers.

Our stock of Morning Wrappers is large and well assorted, in fact we have never been in a position to serve our customers so well.

Our Morning Wrappers fit well.
Our Morning Wrappers are well made.
Our Morning Wrappers are the best value.

Hundreds to select from.

English Print Wrappers from \$1.50.
Flannelette Wrappers, extra quality, from \$2.00.

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All Shades and Qualities, prices from \$1.50

Ladies' Cotton Underclothing.

The cheapest and best Ladies' Cotton Underclothing is to be had at

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We retail all lines at wholesale prices.

Chemises full sizes and trimmed Irish Lace 23 cents.
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Slip waists all sizes 15c.
Night Dresses, full sizes, nicely tucked and trimmed lace, price 50c.

UMBRELLAS.

We have put to stock during the last two weeks several cases of Ladies' and Gents' Umbrellas, all exceptionally good value and choice Handles.

Nowhere can you do so well in Umbrellas.
JOHN MURPHY & CO.

SUNSHADES AND PARASOLS.

We show all the Latest Styles and Colors in Sunshades and Parasols and at wonderfully low prices. Come and see them.

JOHN MURPHY & CO.,

1781, 1783

Notre Dame street, cor. St. Peter,
Montreal,
And Sparks Street, Ottawa.

Terms Cash and Only One Price.

WHAT A
WONDERFUL
THING!

It is indeed wonderful to contemplate the advance in the various branches of scientific, mechanical and industrial pursuits which has taken place within the past few years. Among the many industries which have sprung up and which contribute to the comfort and pleasure of life, there is one which deserves special mention, and that is the STEAM LAUNDRY. Instead of the antiquated methods which prevailed in the days of our forefathers, man's ingenuity has to-day laid the resources of machinery under contribution, and the result is that laundry work has reached a perfection undreamed of in former times. And standing at the head of all laundries is the

Troy Steam Laundry,
140 St. Peter Street,

Corner of Craig.

Telephones, Bell, 666; Federal, 542.

CANADA.
Province of Quebec, } Superior Court
District of Montreal.
No. 758.

Dame Eliza Jane Quinn, of the City and District of Montreal, wife of Alexander Irvine Morison, Merchant, of the same place, duly authorized a *ester on justice*,
Plaintiff,

vs.

Alexander Irvine Morison, of the City of Montreal, Merchant,
Defendant.

An action in separation of property has been commenced in this cause on the sixth of April instant.

Montreal, 6th April, 1891.

W. A. WEIR,
Attorney for Plaintiff.