

NOTICE.

We shall be pleased to receive some of interest pertaining to Trade Societies from all parts of the Dominion or publication. Officers of Trades Unions, Secretaries of Leagues, etc., are invited to send us news relating to their organizations, condition of trade, etc.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.)

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

Each insertion, ten cents per line.

Contract Advertisements at the following rates	
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Half "	45 00
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All communications should be addressed to the Editor, 124 Bay Street, or to Post Office Box 1025.

We wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

Our columns are open for the discussion of all questions affecting the working classes. All communications must be accompanied by the names of the writers, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

WILLIAMS, SLEETH & MACMILLAN,
124 BAY STREET.

Trades Assembly Hall.

Meetings are held in the following order:—

Machinists and Blacksmiths, 1st and 3rd Monday.
Painters, 1st and 3rd Monday.
Coachmakers, 2nd and 4th Monday.
Crispins, (159), 1st and 3rd Tuesday.
K.O.S.C. Lodge 356, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.
Tinmiths, 2nd and 4th Tuesday.
Cigar Makers, 2nd and 4th Wednesday.
Iron Moulders, every Thursday.
Plasterers, 1st and 3rd Thursday.
Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday.
Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Friday.
Coopers, 2nd and 4th Friday.
Printers, 1st Saturday.
Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

MESSRS. LANCEFIELD, [BROS.,
Newsdealers, South St. James St., Hamilton,
are Agents for the WORKMAN in that vicinity.

MR. J. PRYKE, "Workingman's Boot Store," will also continue to supply papers.

The Ontario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1873.

EMIGRATION.

Perhaps there is hardly a question at the present time of deeper interest and importance to the prosperity, progress and development of the resources of the country, than that of emigration, and it is not surprising, therefore, that it should be the question of the hour. Both in the Local and Dominion Parliaments, large sums have been voted for the purposes of assisting emigration and meeting emigration purposes. This is well. It is right that a liberal policy should be adopted by the "powers that be;" but it is of the highest moment that those appropriations should be expended with the utmost care, so that the country may reap the largest possible return. Perhaps never before was there a more favorable opportunity of procuring the very class of emigrants of which Canada stands most in need—the agricultural laborer; and surely, by a judicious use of the large sums voted for the purposes of emigration, it may be quite possible to turn the tide that in England is now setting towards Brazil and other foreign countries, so that Canada may receive a large proportion of those English farm laborers who are now looking to emigration as the best means of redressing the grievances under which they have so deeply suffered. Nor is it desirable to confine emigration to this one class, though, we believe, at the present time it is the one that should be most earnestly and carefully fostered. Our country can also absorb large numbers of skilled workmen and mechanics. But in endeavoring to secure such emigration, the agents appointed should be men who thoroughly understand the requirements of the country, and the advantages that Canada offers to the settler or the mechanic; and a simple recital of these will be amply sufficient to convince thousands in the overcrowd-

ed labor market at home that this Dominion is "just the place" for the development of their energies. But we are aware of many instances where the wildest and most preposterous statements have been made both with respect to the rate of wages paid and the cost of living. We have read instances, where agents, in one and the same breath, have quoted the very highest wages paid to skilled workmen in our large centres of industry (and even a notch above that), and then given the cost of fuel, rent, etc., at backwoods quotations, without the slightest allusion being made to the difference of location. Though these "inducements" may seem very satisfactory, while "distance lends enchantment to the view;" yet such statements do but, in the end, retard rather than promote the object that is sought to be obtained,—because a very rude awakening awaits those whose dreams and expectations are of such a roseate hue. Buoyed up with conclusions arrived at through hearing such highly colored and alluring statements, many mechanics have left profitable employment at home, in the belief that Canada would prove to be the Eldorado of their warmest desires; but a very brief experience of hard reality has been sufficient to awaken them to the real facts of the case, and disappointment has been the result. Taking all things into consideration, we are of the belief that skilled workmen, who are in possession of situations at home, are quite as comfortable and thriving in their circumstances, if not a little more so, than would be their position in Canada,—and we know of many who have left good situations under the circumstances, and with the expectations we have named. The consequence is, smarting under their disappointment, and feeling as though a personal injustice had been done them, they write home to their friends; and their letters are naturally tinged with the disappointment that is in their heart,—and their statements are as dark as their previous expectations were bright,—and perhaps equally untruthful. One such letter as that would do more harm to emigration, than the preaching of highfalutin agents would accomplish good in six months, therefore, it is imperative that the statements made by those who are endeavoring to direct attention to Canada as a field for emigration, should be of the most truthful character. These will be sufficient to prove that to the agriculturalist no better field could be offered; but the mechanic or skilled workman who is in a situation at home, seldom or never materially improves his position. With the case of those of the latter class who find themselves crowded out in the home market, it is quite different; and to such Canada offers a comfortable existence. It is to be hoped, therefore, that while efforts are now being made to promote emigration to this country, all such objectionable means as we have spoken of will be avoided.

A GOOD MOVE.

On Saturday night last, a meeting of the Laborers of this city, took place in St. Patrick's Hall. There were about a hundred persons present, and the chairman having been appointed, the objects of the meeting were spoken of—they being the consideration of the formation of a union, by which means they should be enabled to advance their interests and better their condition. The following resolutions were put to the meeting, and unanimously carried:

Resolved, That this meeting of laborers resolve itself into a protective and benefit union, to be known as Laborers' Union, branch No. 1, of Toronto.

Resolved, That a Committee be formed to draft rules and regulations, to be submitted at a meeting of the branch, to be held on Saturday evening next, for the adoption of the same and the election of officers.

A general response was made to the first resolution, and the most of those present enrolled themselves as members. The meeting was addressed by two or three members of the Trades Assembly, who were present, by whom they were strongly counselled not to be precipitate

in their action, or unjust in their requirements, but by concerted action to endeavor to obtain a fair remuneration for their labor.

We are pleased to see this action on the part of the laborers of this city, and we hope in all their legitimate requests they will be met in a fair and honorable spirit. We believe that many—very many—of our laborers do not receive more than a dollar or a dollar and a quarter a day. We have never been able to understand why it is that men should be expected to engage in these laborious occupations, and in return receive but a pittance that cannot possibly more than keep body and soul together, and indeed, it is a marvel how, where they have families to support, they can do even that. By the means they have adopted, however, if steadily persevered in, they will gradually bring about a better state of things. By introducing a beneficial clause in their regulations, it will tend to give stability to the organization. We cannot but supplement the excellent advice tendered the meeting on Saturday, and we feel convinced, if faithfully acted upon, branch No. 1 of the Laborers' Union will speedily be followed by other branches. So may it be.

POST MASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

The report of the year ending June 1872, shows a continued expansion of the business. In 1872 we had 4,135 post offices against 3,638 in 1868, and 33,145 mile of post route against 27,674 in 1868. Letters carried in 1868, 18, 100,000; in 1872, 30,600,000; gross revenue, 1868, \$1,024,710; 1872, \$1,193,062. Postal expenditure, 1868, \$1,053,570; 1872, \$1,369,163. The year includes for the first time the postal business of British Columbia and Manitoba. The railway between Truro and Amherst 77 miles has connected the Upper with the Lower Provinces. Additional sections of new railways have been opened up—4 miles in Quebec, and 169 in Ontario. Postage to Newfoundland was reduced, on the 1st of November, from 12½ to 6 cents per half oz. for letters, the Canadian rates on printed matter replacing the old. The fishing and other interests benefitted by the schooner mail service between Gaspe and North Shore fishing stations. The arrangements with the United States post office for the transmission of closed mails between British Columbia and the other Provinces of the Dominion twice a week, by railway and stage routes from San Francisco, are mentioned. The Victoria, B. C., and San Francisco mail service, by steamer tri-monthly, was put under regular contract. Postal revenue as follows: Ontario and Quebec, \$1,017,430; New Brunswick, \$70,280; Nova Scotia, \$92,180; Manitoba, \$4,362; British Columbia, \$8,809. The increase in the postal revenue of Ontario and Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, as compared with last year is about 9½ per cent., and the increase of expenditure in those Provinces about 4 per cent.

MEETING OF LABORERS.

As will be seen by reference to an advertisement, the laborers meet again next Saturday evening in the Trades' Assembly Hall, for the transaction of business connected with their newly formed Union. We hope their meeting will be successful in every point, and would urge upon all laborers to be present on the occasion. We expect there will be a very largely attended meeting.

LOOK OUT.

The Toronto Trades' Assembly Anniversary Concert will be held in the Temperance Hall, on Friday evening, May 9th. Every effort is being made to secure first-class talent, and it is expected the occasion will be one of great interest. It is hoped that all in connection with the Assembly will exert themselves to the utmost to secure a crowded house. *Nuff said.*

ENGINEERS' & MACHINE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

The National Association of Engineers and Machine Manufacturers of America, have been in session in Philadelphia, and completed their labors last week. They will meet again on the second Wednesday in December next, at Washington, D.C. The Association is in a healthy and flourishing condition.

K. O. S. C. SOCIAL.

The Knights of St. Crispin Quadrille Club intend holding a second Social and Party in the St. Lawrence Hall, on Friday evening, the 2nd of May. Mr. J. Jolly will supply refreshments. The energy displayed by the committee to cater to the pleasure of the company cannot fail to meet with success. There will, undoubtedly, be a grand gathering on the occasion.

A NATIONAL FEDERAL UNION.

A Conference of delegates representing the various Agricultural Laborers' Unions throughout the country, convened by the London Trades' Council, at the request of the unions, took place on Tuesday, at the Portland Rooms, Foley street, Great Portland street, London, for the purpose of considering the desirability of a general amalgamation of all the unions into one body. Mr. G. Odger was unanimously elected to preside over the Conference, and Mr. Shipton was appointed as secretary. The Chairman having declared the Conference duly constituted, said it had been called, after due deliberation, and at the request of the officers of several of the Laborers' Unions, by the London Trades' Council, for the purpose of ascertaining from the representatives of the various unions of the agricultural laborers, now so thickly scattered over the country, and all taking more or less isolated action, whether they are prepared to amalgamate their unions into one grand association, either upon a federal or any other common basis. He hoped that the result of this meeting would be to consolidate the whole of the Laborers' Unions in the country, which would confer upon them a power and an influence, both socially and politically, which they could not command in their present state of isolation. Mr. Whetstone (president of the Engineers' Society) explained the principles and rules governing his society, numbering 42,000 members. He believed, with some modifications these rules would meet the wants of all Laborers' Unions. Mr. Banks, of Boston, moved:

"That in the opinion of this Conference it is desirable to establish a general amalgamation of all the Laborers' Unions."

Mr. Elkins (Spalding District Union) seconded the resolution. Several delegates having spoken in support of the resolution, it was carried unanimously. Mr. B. Taylor (Peterborough District Union) proposed the following resolution:

"That in the opinion of this Conference the principle upon which the amalgamation mentioned in the previous resolution be carried out should be that of federation—the whole labor movement forming one national association, under one general council, but each district retaining power over its own funds, and to conduct its own business."

Mr. Simmons (Kent Union) seconded resolution, which was carried. Mr. Storey (North Wiltshire Union) had no confidence in the proposed conference at Leamington. He would therefore move the following resolution:

"That an independent conference of the existing Union be convened under the auspices of the London Trades' Council, in order to establish a National Federal Union, and that the Trades' Council be requested to draw up a code of rules which would carry out the two previous resolutions."

Mr. Elkins (Spalding District Union) seconded it. After a long discussion the resolution was adopted. Four delegates not voting. Votes of thanks to the Trades Council and to Mr. Shipton terminated the proceedings, which opened at 11 o'clock in the morning and did not conclude until a late hour in the evening.

DISGRACEFUL.

We clip from an English exchange the following:—

IMPORTANT TO TRADE UNIONIST.—At the Newcastle-on-Tyne County Courton, lately a number of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers made a claim on the funds for a weekly allowance under the rules. For the defence, it was stated that the rules of the Society were not registered, and this plea was held to be fatal to the claim. The Society is stated to number 40,000 members, with funds to the amount of £50,000.

Until we become better acquainted with the whole facts of the case, we do not wish to pass an opinion; but upon the face of the item as published, there is that which should cause the strictest enquiry upon the part of the branches in Canada who naturally materially rest upon the parent society. The Amalgamated Society of Engineers have long been considered the "top of the tree" in reference to union matters; but such a course as pursued in the above item will very speedily shake the confidence of members in its stability. The plea for the defence was most paltry and unjust,—even though it proved fatal to the claim. We hope in justice to themselves, the society can more satisfactorily explain their course of action than is apparent in the face of the item.

THE ATLANTIC WRECK.

The evidence in relation to the wreck of the ill-fated Atlantic, having been completed on Thursday, the collector of Customs delivered the decision on Friday, which is very lengthy, and embodies the leading facts in the evidence from time to time previously reported, with deduction thereon. After a careful examining up, the collector went on to say:—

"From a careful review of all the facts of the case I feel compelled to state my belief that the conduct of Captain Williams, in the management of the ship during the twelve or fourteen hours preceding the disaster, was so gravely at variance with what ought to have been the conduct of a man placed in his responsible position, as to call for severe censure, and to justify me in saying that his certificate, as extra master, might be cancelled; but in consideration of the praiseworthy and energetic efforts made by him to save life after the ship struck, the mitigated penalty of the suspension of his certificate for two years should be imposed. I also feel it my duty to state that the conduct of Mr. Brown, the fourth officer, in preventing the servant from calling Captain Williams at twenty minutes to three as ordered, was under the circumstances an improper violation of the captain's order; and further, in the fact that as one of the officers of the watch after twelve o'clock he ought to have seen the light and did not see it, and ought to have seen the land and did not see it, there is an implied culpable neglect and want of safety, which should be marked by censure and moderate punishment. I therefore judge that the certificate of fourth officer Brown, as master, should be suspended for three months."

The old supposition that a decrease in the hours of labor results in a decrease of the amount of work done seems to be disproved by a late report of the Bureau of Statistics of labor in Massachusetts. One of the largest manufacturing corporations of Lowell, reports a reduction in time of 18.06 per cent.—a gain in the amount of work done of 20 per cent., and an increase in the wages of men of 49 cents per day, and of women 39 cents. Such a result ought to be a strong argument in favor of the short time system.

PRESENTATION.—Mrs. C. Hickman was waited on by a number of O. Y. B.'s at her residence, on Queen street west, last Friday evening, and presented with a very handsome and costly work-box. It was mounted with a silver plate bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Mrs. C. Hickman by a few friends, April, 1873." Mr. J. Campton, W. M. of the McCaw No. Surrender Lodge, read the address. Mr. Hickman thanked them on behalf of his wife for the great honor they had conferred upon her, and said that at all times she was willing to assist them in their undertakings, after which the band of the O. Y. B.'s No. 10 played some very lively airs, and the company separated much pleased with their evening's entertainment.

PRESENTATION.—The employees of the upholstering department of Messrs. Hay & Co., met at the residence of Mr. W. J. Graham, their late foreman, on Thursday evening last, and presented him with a handsome silver ice-pitcher, accompanied by a neat address, as a mark of their esteem. On the pitcher was engraved the