

# Ontario Workman

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

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## Labor Notes.

The strike is still in operation among the coopers of London, Ont., and the men are daily leaving that city for other places.

On Monday, June 16th, a thousand fitters, finishers, and other working cordwainers struck in Leeds for an advance of from 10 to 20 per cent.

The bricklayers' laborers at Leicester are agitating for an advance of 1/4d. per hour, and threaten to strike if it be not conceded. The masters strongly resist the demand.

At a meeting of the Winnipeg Typographical Union the following officers were elected:—President, John R. Cameron; Vice-President, T. Collins; Treasurer, J. Osborne; Recording and Financial Secretary, J. F. Galbraith; Corresponding Secretary, T. Collins; Committee, T. Anderson, W. Yuill, and J. Craig.

The strike among the Oldham stone-masons, which had continued for several weeks, is now at an end. The men sought for an advance of 3s. per week, making a total of 33s. The masters offered 1s. 6d. per week now and a further advance of 1s. 6d. in August next. At a recent meeting the operatives agreed to the terms proposed by the masters.

A strike has taken place at Great Grimsby Docks amongst the ship carpenters, and about 150 men have turned out. They were getting 30s. a week at new work, and 33s. at old, on the nine hours system. They demand 33s. at new work and 36s. at old work. The masters refused this demand, hence the strike.

The Sheffield branch of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers have addressed a circular to their employers demanding an increase of the minimum rate of wages from 32s. to 34s. a week, time and a-half for overtime, extra pay for outwork, and that 45 hours should reckon as 54 hours on night shifts. The masters object to the advance on overtime, and the men are determined to stand out unless their demand are conceded.

The strike of clickers or cutters-out connected with the Leicester boot and shoe trade is virtually at an end. The strike has lasted about six weeks, the number of unionists who turned out being something like 250. Since that time a number of men have obtained employment at an advance of 10 per cent. out of the 15 per cent. demanded, while others have obtained employment at Northampton and elsewhere rather than return to their old employers.

The night workmen employed in the Aberdare collieries are agitating for an arrangement which will enable them to work five turns per night and receive payment for six. The masters have considered their demand, and offered them an advance of 3d. per ton, which they refused to accept. It was decided on Tuesday, at a meeting of workmen held at Aberaman, to refer the dispute to the Executive Committee of the Miners' Association.

The Low Stubbin colliery, in the employ of Earl Fitzwilliam, having been informed that his lordship was willing to find them work as road-makers pending the completion of arrangements for the re-opening of the pits, decided to accept the offer, on the understanding that all questions in dispute at the colliery were left in abeyance till the temporary work in question is finished.

On Wednesday night, 10 ult., a conference was held in Dundee, at which twenty-eight trades were represented, for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken with the view of securing the repeal of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. There was a large audience, and the proceedings were most enthusiastic. The operation of the Act was strongly condemned. Resolutions were adopted, declaring that the operation of the Act was oppressive and injurious to workmen, and liable to great abuse in its application; that the criminal section of the Master and Servant Act was altogether partial and cruel; that

the law of conspiracy required modification, having been found most severe and oppressive in its application to the combinations of labor; and that a petition should be forwarded to the House of Commons for the purpose of having these demands conceded.

## THE VIENNA EXHIBITION.

The last week's endeavors of the exhibitors in the Vienna Exposition have made a great change for the better in the appearance of the various courts, and we may attempt to give some account of its noticeable features. Though there is yet something to be done, the Oriental courts are now far enough advanced for a stroll through with comfort and entertainment. Most of the Eastern courts abound with life-sized figures showing the costumes of the countries they represent, male as well as female, with some attempt at illustrating the more private life of the higher classes, about which there is so much curiosity among the peoples of the West. At the extreme end of the building there is a carriage such as is used by Turkish ladies. It consists of a kind of van about six feet long, with a cushion of red and striped silk for the floor, and two others on each side, there being no proper seats: so that the position of the rider, a Turkish lady, is cross-legged, and reclining against one of the side cushions. The vehicle has no windows, and being painted red, has rather a tawdry appearance. The nails of the lady are daubed with henna, and the yashmak, or veil, partly hides her face. One interested in the subject may study the variety of these yashmaks as represented in the courts we are now in. Some are of white muslin, giving but rather an obscure sight of particular features, but permitting a good general insight into the cast of the face. Then there are those in the shape of a black bandage folded so as to hide the forehead and the face from the nose downwards. Fashions, they say, do not change in the East, but it is to be hoped that the first symptoms of progress in this way will be the cessation of this method of concealing the "moon-faces" from the gaze of the profane. There is another curious variety, made of gilt metallic paper, hanging from a band round the head over the face downwards as far as the waist, and looking much like the auriferous species of the "ornaments for your fire-stove" vended in London about this time. There are some good attempts at showing the furniture of rooms in the Indian and Tunisian departments. The Indian affair is a sort of glass room, with a figure of a gorgeously-dressed Eastern grandee, reclining on a couch. The Tunisian is very similar, but shows a lady as well as a gentleman of that country in her indoors costume; and one may admire the beautifully embroidered white and yellow silk, flowered and worked with gold and silver thread, that adorns the figure of the female inside, and also that of one who stands outside.

Turkey has a fine model of Constantinople, 46 feet by 18, showing the city and Straits with the Golden Horn, skilfully colored by a Turkish artist. Turkey has also another beautiful model, by Benvenisti, of Constantinople, of the mosque or church of St. Validi, in that capital. It is handsomely executed in silver, with two tapering minarets, each surmounted by the Mahomedan crescent. In speaking of Turkish objects, we must mention her curious religious relics of the later ages of the Byzantine Empire. There are also remains of other times and divisions of the mighty power that lasted altogether twenty-two centuries, and of which the Constantinopolitan period was merely the inglorious termination, for Tunis displays a good collection, dug up within her limits, of ancient Roman pottery, tessellated pavements, inscriptions, and human figures in marble, the last not exempted from that unhappy fatality in noses that has often marred the perfection of the remains from the Roman and Grecian sculptor's chisel. Tunis has also a splendid show of fine silks, native weapons, swords and muskets, a little anti-

quated, and probably useless against the Snider and Chasspot, but in their day, no doubt, formidable weapons. These, with a stand of pottery of very primitive make, some of the handles looking as though they were substitutes for others that had broken off, and a stand of gold and silver work, principally female ornaments, complete the objects of note that Tunis has to show.

Persia has a fair collection of carpets, that might be placed besides those of Kidderminster. They are neatly designed, but rather sombre.

In going through the Chinese court, you fancy you come across some more of the Stoke pottery adorning the English court, for there is here a quantity of china of many sizes and patterns, and for many uses, all so like that we make ourselves, that it becomes doubtful whether we should give more credit to the Chinaman who has so many years had his wares made patterns of imitation by Western nations, or to the European who has learned so exactly to copy them. Without exception, in the whole collection of carvings in many materials scattered up and down the entire Exhibition, there is nothing to equal, certainly not to surpass, the two magnificent carved wood cabinets shown by China, and scarcely less qualified praise may be bestowed on the pretty set of chessmen produced by her. In the art of accurately imitating given models consists the stationary excellence that is especially in accordance with the genius of the Chinese, and which has been made the subject of more than one joke against them.

Japan has some fine silk, but the most meritorious articles in her whole court are a set of bronze vases, the centre one three feet high, and all, the largest especially, exhibiting such a mastery of the ornamental part of metal-working as may excite the jealousy even of French bronze-workers.

Dr. Schlesinger, the correspondent of a German paper, who is now at Vienna, writes to that paper that some of the best glass, porcelain, and machinery in the Exhibition comes from England. "Both Germans and Frenchmen," he says, "recognize the gigantic advance which England has made in the last few years in those very branches of art-industry which before 1851 were almost exclusively the property of France. In goods of a middling sort Germany and France surpass England; but in all cases where common articles are to be produced at the lowest prices, or the finest without regarding the cost of production, it is seldom that English goods are equalled by those of another country. Among the samples of the latter, their smooth cut glass, their heavy chased silver plate, their jewellery, and above all, their china, deserve special study. It should," he says, "be observed that the china is all produced in private establishments; for England does not possess Government manufactories of china, like those of Berlin, St. Petersburg, Dresden, and Paris, which are maintained at the expense of the State, and consequently need not look to making much profit. Yet English china is now equal to the best which is made in other countries. This shows how much can be done without State help, and how salutary is the effect produced by such art schools as the Kensington Museum."

STATUE OF THE PRINCE CONSORT.—The statue of the Prince Consort for the Albert Memorial Chapel, Windsor Castle, arrived at Windsor on Monday. It is a white marble figure by Baron Triguetti, representing the Prince in full armor in a recumbent position. Angels support the head, and a favorite dog is at the feet. The inscription is "Albert, the Prince Consort, born August 26th, 1810—died December 15th, 1861—buried in the Royal Mausoleum, Frogmore. 'I have fought the good fight. I have finished my course.' The statue has been placed in position for Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen to view it.

A international chess tournament, for \$2,000 in gold, fifty florins entrance entrance, will commence at Vienna on the 20th of July next.

## THE LONDON BUILDING TRADES.

It seems probable that a struggle is about to take place in the London building trade. The Master Builders' Association have refused to concede the advance of wages from 8 1/2d. to 9d. per hour as asked for in the memorial sent in by the carpenters.

### THE STONE MASONS.

The masons contend that they have even a stronger claim than the carpenters for the half-penny advance, inasmuch as they positively assert that in making the compromise with the committee of masters for the settlement of the dispute in 1872, it was expressly understood by both parties that if trade was at all good this season the masons should receive the 9d. per hour. In January last the masons' committee gave six months' notice to the employers that they should require the fulfilment of this agreement. The reply of the masters' committee to this notice was the effect that they were prepared to give the advance from 8 1/2d. to 9d. per hour on the first of March, 1874, but that in so doing they would require that the hour for leaving work on Saturdays should be one o'clock instead of twelve o'clock, as is now the rule with the masons. This latter condition is repudiated by the masons, who state that they would not accept the half-penny advance if offered at once clogged with this objectional condition, and the employers have been distinctly informed that if they decline to carry out unconditionally the promise they made last year, the general body of the masons will cease work in July next, when the six months' notice has expired.

A crowded meeting of the operative masons was held lately at the Falstaff Music Hall, Old street, St. Luke's, Mr. Spencer in the chair, for the purpose of considering the course to be adopted in consequence of the refusal of the master builders to comply with the request of the men for an advance of 1/4d. per hour on the present rate of wages.

In opening the proceedings, the Chairman said the question they had met to discuss and decide upon was one of great importance to the trade, and he trusted it would be carefully and calmly considered, and that every man in giving his vote would be fully impressed with the responsibility attaching to it. They were all aware that in the early part of the present year the committee of the London lodges had sent in a memorial to the committee of the Master Builders' Association, requesting an advance in the existing rate of wages to the extent of 1/4d. per hour, viz., from 8 1/2d. to 9d. per hour, with the notice that such advance should be given at the expiration of six months from the date of the memorial. This notice would expire on Saturday, the 19th of July next. On the 23rd of May, a reply was received from the masters' committee, stating that at a general meeting of the Associated Master Builders this memorial had been duly considered, and a unanimous resolution had been adopted declaring that the masters declined to increase the rate of wages during the present year, but that they would be prepared to pay 9d. per hour on and after the 1st of March, 1874, coupled with the condition that from that date the hour for leaving work on Saturdays should be one o'clock, instead of twelve o'clock as at present.

Mr. Broadhurst, as one of the deputation who arranged the settlement of last year's dispute with the masters' committee, stated that there was a distinct understanding between the deputation and the committee that if trade was good the 9d. per-hour should be given this summer.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That this meeting of the masons of London, having considered the letter received from the Master Builders' Association, desires to express its regret at the proposition therein contained, and pledges itself never, under any circumstances, to return to the one o'clock on Saturdays; and further declares its full determination to firmly adhere to the terms of the memorial sent in by the committee."

The effect of the adoption of the above

resolution is that, unless the master builders concede the 1/4d. per hour advance, on the 19th of July next, the whole body of masons will cease work on that that day.—*Bee Hive, 14th inst.*

## BEARING ON THE EIGHT HOUR LAW.

We clip the following from the *Lawrence Journal*:—

The Committee on the Labor question considered the petitions for the enactment of an eight hour law for the employees of the State, counties, cities and towns. Mr. E. M. Chamberlin, opened the case for the petitioners. His argument was based upon the inevitable tendency at things by the operation of natural laws. The best of interests of the people and the highest interests of the nation were being recognized. In this country there were superior advantages for the prosecution of every branch of industry, yet the hours of labor are higher.

The Rev. F. Mallieu of South Boston considered the request of the petitioners was not unnecessary or unwarranted, in view of the great progress that had been made. It was a fair plan to bring this matter before the Legislature, and he hoped the eight hour rule would at least be adopted for the employees of the State. It would add another influence to those already in operation for the welfare of the race. Such a movement was also in the interest of political economy.

Mr. J. G. Painter of Chelsea, a factory operative, advocated the law on the ground that a reduction of the hours of labor would furnish employment to more persons.

G. E. Mansfield, a carpenter from Worcester, was a thorough eight hour man, and would give his vote for no man, or listen to the preaching of no minister who was not in favor of a reduction in the hours of labor. The present system was religiously, morally and social wrong.

## UNWORTHY MAGISTRATES.

The *Times* remarks that the true moral to be deduced from the Chipping Norton case is not the suppression of the unpaid magistracy, but their improvement, by throwing open their ranks so as not to leave them so exclusively representative of one class as at present, and by weeding out of their number any one whose conduct proves him disqualified for his office. We have, adds the *Times*, a strong opinion on the necessity of following up the second branch of the reform thus indicated. It is now thought a very harsh and cruel thing to remove a gentleman from the bench, and very little consideration is spent on the unhappy people who suffer from his temper or his ignorance. One of the Chipping Norton magistrates appears to be a college rector of nearly a quarter of a century's standing, a man who ought to have learnt something of life and of justice, but Lord Selborne will certainly be justified in asking him to show cause why he should not cease to be a country magistrate. It may be difficult to sit in judgment where the offender was your contemporary in the university and fellow of the same college; but the difficulty must be overcome. If a man who has been a country clergyman for twenty-four years does not know better than to send sixteen women in a batch, two of them with infants at the breast, to prison with hard labour upon the first conviction for a new statutory offence, he will never learn the business of a magistrate, and the sooner he resigns it the better for his neighbours.

A woman in Union Hill, N. J., became tired of barefooted children, who congregated on the flag walk, front of her house. For pouring boiling water on that walk to scald the feet of those children, she was arrested and judged.

A Pittsfield, Mass., dog, had a hard fight with a woodchuck, dragged the animal to a small brook, plunged him in, and held him under water until he was drowned.