

Ontario Workman

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

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TORONTO, THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1874.

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Labour Notes.

The iron manufacturers of the Cleveland District are taking preliminary measures for having the wages question reviewed, with a view to a reduction, by the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration.

The London engineers resolved, at a meeting held recently to ask a rise of 2s. per week on their wages, and if this is not conceded, to cease work in all the workshops on the 1st January.

The Greenock house-joiners agreed on Friday night to request an increase of wages from 1st April next; but a larger meeting is to be called before presenting the memorial, which asks payment of 3d. instead of 7d. per hour.

One thousand five hundred men, employed by Messrs. John Brown & Co., Sheffield, in the Bessemer steel department, have received notice of a reduction of 10 per cent. in their wages. The reason of this is that Continental makers are underselling English 10 per cent.

The strike in the central districts of Belgium has now terminated to the advantage of the workmen whose organization proved more powerful than the employers had anticipated. The assistance derived from societies in different parts of the country contributed greatly to bring this result, for the Belgium workmen are daily realizing the importance of helping each other throughout the whole country, instead of limiting their efforts to merely local struggles.

The example of the strike, or rather lockout, set by the housewives of Cassel, promises to be followed in many German towns. The women of Cassel, it may be remembered, indignant at the extortion practised on the daily market, combined to taboo that market altogether, and now purchase butter, eggs, and all sorts of victuals elsewhere, wherever they can get them, or do without, till the market vendors shall reduce their prices to a fair standard. The women of Dortmund have now resolved to take the same course; moreover, in order to give greater force to a united effort, they have convoked a woman's congress to their city.

At a special meeting of the Machinists' and Blacksmiths' Union, No. 1, of Connecticut, held in Tyler's Hall, New Haven, on Dec. 27., the following gentlemen were elected to fill the offices for the ensuing year: Mr. James Mawn, President; George Hadley, Vice-President; John Fleether, Treasurer; George H. Thomas, Recording Secretary; John Bulger, Financial Secretary; James Minty, Conductor. This Union enters on the third year of its existence in a flourishing condition. Meetings: the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.

A meeting of the Leicester carpenters, was held on Monday evening December 1st, at the Temperance Hall, at which a goodly muster attended. The cause was well advocated by several members, which amounted to this:—About eight years ago, the standard wages here were 29s. per week of 5½ hours, which so remained until the commencement of 1871, when an agitation commenced for a reduction of time to 54 hours, and 6½d. per hour, amounting to only 3d. advance per week, namely 29s. 3d., which was gained after a struggle of two months. During the past summer, much dissatisfaction has been expressed, but no steps taken until about three months ago, when a meeting was held in the above place, which ended in an adjournment for three months. This meeting has decided to send to the employers for an advance of 1d. per hour, to commence on the first Saturday in April, 1874. A committee of six non-society men, three Amalgamated, and three General Union men were chosen to carry out the above object.

In Spain, notwithstanding the confusion attendant on the present grave political dissensions, the trades are still persevering in their efforts to obtain better wages. The federation of all the sections of the dyers which forms one of the branches of the "Union of the Spanish Manufacturers," has recently held a congress at San's in Catalonia. Here resolutions of a purely business character were at first discussed and adopted; all tending to knit the bonds of union more firmly. Another congress has also been held at Barcelona convoked by the federation of the "three steam sections." This is a name given by the Spaniards to the workmen employed in preparing, spinning, and weaving cloths, etc. The chief matter of debate related to the numerous strikes which have recently occurred in this trade and especially the strike of the men employed by a notorious Carlist manufacturer

named Puig y Llagostera. Twenty sections were represented at the congress and it was estimated that there was about 1,500 men on strike. The federation decided to support them to the best of its ability.

For the last six months the bottle makers of Bordeaux have been contending against their employers. These are the conditions for which they at first stipulated:—1. The right to leave work after giving a month's notice. That this rule be observed without the necessity of any written engagement. 2. That the ornamentation of the bottles should be paid extra. 3. That all bottles with a flaw should be immediately broken up. 4. The abolition of the £12 caution money which the workmen are now obliged to pay to the employers. They further demanded the regular payment of their salaries on the 10th of each month and an augmentation of two pence half-penny per hundred bottles. This proposed regulation was emphatically refused by the employers, and after much discussion and several meetings the workmen resolved to moderate their terms. They acquiesced in the necessity of written engagements, but insisted on suppressing a clause introduced by the masters to the effect that two workmen could work where it has always been customary to employ three. They offered to do ornamentation to the extent of three per cent. where they formerly worked to the extent of six per cent. without extra pay. They abandoned their clause with regard to the bottles with flaws. They also consented to continue paying the £12 caution money, and only demanded the increase of pay of 2½d. on bottles that hold 70 centilitres and upwards. Notwithstanding this very considerable modification of the original demand the employers have not yet shown the slightest disposition to effect a compromise.

THE FACTORY ACTS.

The reports of Messrs. Rodgrave and Baker, Inspectors of Factories, have just been issued for the half-year ending 30th April last, supplying us with a mass of interesting details as to the operations of the Acts limiting the hours of work of women and children in workshops and factories, besides statistics of the number and quality of the injuries to workers reported in their respective divisions. Taking the last mentioned portion of the report first, we find that in the half-year there were reported 2,731 accidents to females, and 909 to males, giving a total of 3,640. A large number of the injuries were sustained by young persons and children, namely 1,425 of the former and 866 of the latter. A comparatively small proportion of the accidents, however, were fatal, the total number of deaths being 154 males and 9 females; and of these, again, the greater portion were adults. Though the totals are high, Mr. Rodgrave shows that the proportion of accidents, in spite of the constantly increasing number of factories and workshops, is lessening. Comparing the accidents which occurred 20 years ago in cotton, woollen, worsted, flax, hemp, and other factories, the only kind of works which have been under the Factory Acts for more than ten years, we find that in 1850, though the number of accidents was slightly less—4,158 as compared with 4,230—than in 1870, the number of persons employed in the last mentioned year was 892,106, as compared with 596,082, and the proportion of accidents to persons employed 1 to 143 in 1850, against 1 to 210 in 1870. Thus, with constantly increasing occasions of accidents in the multiplication of workshops and workers, we have a steadily decreasing ratio in the number of accidents. This is doubtless due to the strict enforcement, by the inspectors, of the restrictions as to the fencing of machinery, restrictions which every day seems to be more necessary, in order to keep pace with the increased speed and complexity of manufacturing machinery. Mr. Baker observes that there is a tendency to revive the practice once so common and so dangerous, of allowing children to pass between fixed and traversing parts of machinery; but several prosecutions which he instituted will, he hopes, lessen the danger from that source. The most interesting parts of the reports are perhaps those which refer to the observance or non-observance, of the clauses of the Factory Acts with reference to the employment of women and children. The number of informations lodged during the six months was 800, and the number of convictions 595. Mr. Baker cannot say that in his division the restrictive clauses of the Act are fairly observed. The factories, he says, have been to some extent neglected, owing to the great increase in workshop visitation—an argument,

we should say, for an increase of the inspecting staff. The prosecutions embraced nearly all classes of violations of the Factory Acts; children employed without proof of physical fitness, or amongst dangerous machines; and children employed during the night or employed without proof of attendance at school. In some cases the children were found working after 8 o'clock at night on Saturdays; and, in one case, prosecution was instituted against a master for employing a child only eight years of age. No part of the report is more saddening to read than this. In one case we find a child ten years of age engaged in flower-making from 8.30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; in another, a boy of twelve, working full time in a manufacturing chemist's workshop in Manchester, and, of course, without any school attendance. Birmingham, and the black country generally, are spoken of as districts where there is a great neglect of education. Both masters and parents seem to connive at the systematic working of overtime. The number of children who are working half time is increasing rapidly in Manchester and Birmingham; but that would not matter so much, if the free portion of the time was directed to the education of the children. This, however, is by no means the case; and we trust our own School Board will take note of the fact that in Birmingham, where in 1869 the children working half-time were numbered by hundreds, at the close of the present year they will be numbered by thousands; and the vast proportion of them, though employed on a system providing for time to attend school, simply run wild when work hours are over. Mr. Baker also directs attention to milliners, whose case is peculiarly sad, from the fact that those who are victims of oppressive employers fear to come forward as prosecuting witnesses lest they should be dismissed from employment altogether. The workers, says Mr. Baker, when asked, uniformly protest against working more than ten and a half hours a day, for, with few exceptions, when these hours are exceeded the gains go entirely to the employers, who pay nothing for overwork, but set it off against short days in the dull season, when the aggregate hours of work are not more than seven or eight. The difficulty in the case of the milliners is to obtain convictions, owing as we have said to the reluctance of the girls to give evidence. Speaking on this point, Mr. Baker says:—"I have myself had so many letters and personal calls by milliners' girls who have been employed into the small hours of the morning, and on visitation have found the statements to be correct, that I could fain have endeavored to stop the practice by prosecutions; but such was the fear of dismissal that I have never yet found one daring to give evidence before the Justices in consequence of the certainty of being a marked character from day forwards, and out of employment as soon as it was convenient for her to be discharged." One of the most degrading instances of female night-work is given by Mr. Sub-Inspector Fitton in connection with the salt works at Droitwich, where the men work nearly nude, and where the women commence to work too often before six in the morning. Mr. Fitton reported a case to Mr. Baker as a matter for strict investigation, adding, however, "I cannot produce a witness, as every one of the twenty-four women employed at the six paces declared that she was not among the five stowed in the sheds at 5.25 in the morning. Put I can swear, and it is not denied, that I saw a woman stripped and ready for work at that hour, and all ran off and hid themselves as soon as I entered the shed; one of them had a salt-box in her hand. I should be glad," says the Sub-Inspector, "if the employment of women at salt work was altogether prohibited, as, although I by no means desire to see the employment of female labor in factories generally put an end to, I believe that the semi-nude working at salt factories is in every way bad for women, and it is especially injurious to nursing mothers and their infants, who are brought into the steaming sheds to be suckled." This is a picture of British female life that will match nearly anything that can be produced of the degradation of women in the most barbarous nations, and we commend it to the attention of Sir John Pakington, the member for the borough of Droitwich. From the two reports it is clear that a vast deal remains yet to be done for the protection of women and children in factories, and much, above all, to enforce the education of the half-time children. Birmingham, especially, is guilty with regard to the neglect of her young; but we have little fear that by the efforts of the energetic men who now control our School Board, our Factory

Inspectors will have a different story to tell during the next three years.—*English Paper.*

CURRENT EVENTS.

It is said that Mr. Disraeli proposes to make an American tour next Spring.

The Over Darwen Co-operative Society has a library of 2,400 volumes.

Mr. Nicholas Balline has established a co-operative store and bazaar at Kharkof, in Russia.

It appears that the co-operators of Rochdale, devoted £1,000 a year to educational purposes.

General Pavia, who led the troops into the halls of the Cortes, and dispersed that body, is to be tried by Court-Martial for rebellion.

The Spanish Government has been defeated by a majority of twenty on a test vote, and a new Cabinet, with Marshall Serrano as chief, has been formed.

The Duke of Edinburgh and his Russian bride, the Grand Duchesse Marie, will, after their arrival in England, occupy apartments in Buckingham Palace until the completion of Clarence House.

In Mayo county, Ireland, intense feeling has been excited by the suicide of a farmer named Hurst. He had been threatened with eviction, and to avoid ruin he drowned himself.

Contributions are being taken up in New York for the families of the late Professor Fronter, of Geneva, and the Rev. A. Carageo, of Madrid, members of the Evangelical Alliance, who were lost on the Ville de Havre.

Mr. Thomas Baring who died recently, has left one year's salary to all the clerks and servants in the employment of the firm of Baring Brothers. The sum which will have to be paid under this provision, is upwards of £40,000.

The Royal Society has made a grant to Professor Ferrier for the purpose of enabling him to conduct a series of experiments upon the brains of monkeys. Professor Ferrier will shortly submit a paper to the society embodying the results of his investigations.

Colonel Gordon, R. E., the English delegate on the Danube commission from Constantinople to Egypt, has accepted the offer made him by the Khedive to continue the exploration of Central Africa, begun by Sir Samuel Baker, and has started on his perilous journey.

The Russian General Kauffman is under the shadow of imperial displeasure for his manner of conducting the Khivan war, especially for his attack on the Turkomans, his premature publication of the treaty with Khiva, and his wasteful and corrupt administration in Turkestan.

Sir Lambton Loraine, Bart., R. N., commander of Her Britannic Majesty's war steamer Niobe, has received an address from British subjects resident in Central America, thanking him for the service he rendered his fellow-countrymen by the prompt measures he adopted against General Streber in Honduras.

We see it stated that the Allan steamers Polynesian and Scandinavian, in addition to the Sarmatius, formerly reported, have been chartered by the British Government to act as transports to the seat of war on the Gold Coast. The price to be paid for their services is given at £10,000 to each steamer.

The Peculiar people, an English sect, have again come into conflict with the law. Emma Barlow, of Plaistow, Essex, was taken sick, and trusted in the Lord, but failed to call a doctor. Her husband, who also belonged to the sect, would have summoned a physician had she requested it, and the coroner's jury on that ground exonerated him from criminal responsibility.

A young Frenchman of Manchester, N. H., met a deaf and dumb and friendless young lady from some where, and wooed and won her. She could not even write her name, but had to be fitted out with a temporary appellation to go through the marriage service with; and the husband only found out who she was the other day, after two years of remarkable quiet life.

The agents of the General Trans-Atlantic Steamship Company received a despatch yesterday announcing that the French Admiralty court has pronounced judgment in the Ville du Havre case, declaring the manoeuvre of the Ville du Havre to have been blameless, and holding the bad management on the part of

the Loch Earn to have been the cause of the disaster. Captain Surmount was exonerated by the court.

Steps are being taken, says a recent report of the Leeds Industrial and Co-operative Society, by the educational committee by means of lectures at the centre and various districts, by opening reading rooms, forming branch libraries, &c., to bring the co-operative education of the members on a level with and even superior to their material prosperity.

It is reported that the Hot Springs and Big Valley Indians, some eight hundred men, women and children, in Siskiyou county, California, are in danger of starvation in consequence of their vegetable means of subsistence being overrun by cattle; and we hear that the U. S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs has authorized a committee to act for the relief of these poor Indians.

Mr. J. Arch, the president of the Agricultural Laborers' Union, had an interview with Mr. Gladstone recently. According to a correspondent of the Leeds Mercury, the interview was at the Premier's request. Mr. Arch narrated his recent Canadian experiences, and informed Mr. Gladstone that the only way to stop the threatened exodus of laborers from that country is to concede household suffrage in counties, and to induce landowners by legislation or otherwise to improve cottages and grant leases of two or three acres of land on the same terms as are given to farmers.

Lord Aberdare recently distributed the prizes to the successful students of the School of Art at South Kensington museum, and in the course of his remarks took occasion to commend the establishment of such institutions as tending to promote the study of a higher standard of art throughout the country. He was much gratified that the Goldsmiths' company had out of its riches distributed sums of money to artists for the best designs, and during the last year it was noteworthy that nine of these prizes had been given. Out of these he was glad to find seven had been won either by students of this school or those who had been its students in former times.

THE FAMINE IN BENGAL.—The prospects of the spring crop are better, but the Tirthoot planters expect worse times than in 1866. There is distress in Sarun and Chumpanum, and the people are crowding to the Relief works in parts of Patna, Dinapore, and Rajshah, but not yet elsewhere. The Calcutta rainfall is 25 inches short. The native press takes a gloomy view of future prospects. English opinions are conflicting. Sir G. Campbell has admonished the zemindars to give help to their tenantry, and bestows praise upon three large landholders who have done so. The famine officially reported at Marwar and Jeyulmere.

The New Haven Union says:—The Rhode Island State Prison is rapidly taking rank as a manufacturing institution. Last year, it sold \$90,000 worth of manufactured articles, and the year before, \$82,000 worth. As the number of criminals was about the same in both years, it would naturally follow the increase in sales was owing to superior workmanship on the part of the prisoners. If the State would only offer a little inducement for crime, now and then, so as to materially increase the number of involuntary workmen under her control, she might do an immense thing with her prison trade. The suggestion is worth consideration.

The strikes of the American railway engineers, it now appears, are ended, or, with hardly an exception, are under the control of the several companies concerned. Now, would it not be well for the railway companies generally, and their engineers and other employes to hold council together and enter into some general agreement by which the interests of both sides will be secured with the interests of the public? Between capital and labor, surely, from all these disagreements, the rights and interests of both sides can be more cheaply secured by reciprocal concessions than by war.

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He who receives a good turn should never forget it; he who does one, should never remember it.

such a friend. I was obliged to confide my secret to a young friend at the risk of his ridicule, for in no other way could I come at a knowledge of whom the party really consisted. And he helped me at last to the end of my thread of mystery.

"Theodore," said he, one evening, as we sat talking together over his bright bachelor fire of cannel, "there was one fellow there that night, who had his sister with him—one that I had forgotten—James Birney. They came in together very quietly, I remember now, just as we had risen from the table to form the circle. I did not notice them much, for I was absorbed in other thoughts, and the room, you know, was not very well lighted."

I looked in sheer amazement at the man who needed light by which to see those glorious orbs that had so bewitched me, but I said only:

"Well, Phil, where does James Birney live, and who is he?"

"Oh, don't you know him? I'll introduce you to-morrow evening. We'll call there together—would like to have a chat with James myself, and you, in the meantime, may chance to meet your Dukeina."

How my heart beat at those words! Reader, if you have ever been twenty years old and in love, you will understand how it was; if you never have been young, and know not what the passion is, you ought by no means to read my story. It will affect you as poetry did the great mathematician, who asked, "what does it prove?"

Well, I went the next evening with Phil to call on James Birney. He lived in a nice, snug little house in P—street—a little wooden cottage, as neat as wax, with a bright brass knocker on the door instead of a bell. How I remember that knocker, and how it sounded to me on that eventful evening! It was like the voice of destiny to my agitated soul!

We were shown into the parlor, a little boudoir of a room, bright as polished brass and glowing fire and "fluid" lamps could make it; and there, seated at a table near the glowing grate, were the object of my affections and her brother, playing chess.

They rose as we entered, and I was formally introduced.

She gave me again that white, warm hand of hers, and said:

"I have met you before, I think, Mr. Avery. You were at the circle at Adam's, if I remember aright."

"I shall not soon forget that I was there," I said, quite carried away by the occasion.

"You are very much interested in circles, then?" said she, dropping those glorious eyes beneath my ardent gaze.

"I was, at one time; but other interests since then have quite superseded that."

She looked inquiringly at me, then dropped her eyes again. Nothing is so encouraging to a bashful man as to find that he can cause a lady's eyes to drop before his own.

The conversation became general now, and we of course could have no more private "passages." But the ice was broken, and I, having carte blanche to the house, made frequent calls; but the brother was always present.

One happy evening, however, he was too ill to come down. Never before did I so bless the fact of a friend being ill.

So, there I was at last, alone with the lovely one. What should I do or say, or whether should I turn? It became oppressive to me for a few moments. At last she, seeing and not quite understanding my manner, said, not without some touch of pique:

"That it enables me to say to you what I could not have said in his presence; that you are the only woman I have loved."

There! It was out! (how easily it always does come out, after all!) and she sat blushing and trembling before me, unable to speak a word, yet evidently neither angry or displeased at the bold words I had spoken.

"Alice," said I, at last, after waiting in vain for some response, "do you care for what I have said? Could you love a fellow like me, do you think, who knows he is not worthy of you, but aspires to be so?"

Her hand trembled a little on the arm of her chair, and she lifted those blue eyes to my face, so full of love that they answered me without words. I seized the little trembler and kissed it.

Ball Cards and Programmes, Posters, in plain and colored inks, Business Cards, Bill Heads, Circulars, and every description of Plain and Ornamental Job Printing executed in first-class style at the WORKMAN Office.

A colored philosopher thus unburdened himself on one of woman's weaknesses: "Jim de men don't make such fools of demselves about women as de women do about men. If women looks at de moon, dey see a man in it. If dey hear a mouse it's a man; and dey all look under de bed de fust thing to find a man. Why, I neber looks under my bed to find a woman, does you?"

SCIENTIFIC.

HINTS ON CHEAP FLORAL DECORATION.

The introduction of natural ornaments into our houses is of comparatively recent date. Fashion in her changing moods has willed it, and the conventional and artificial have had their day. Rustic baskets of trailing ivy, stands of gaily tinted growing flowers, mimic ponds teeming with finny life, and vases of autumnal leaves and grasses have replaced the cumbersome china or queer old ornaments of bull and marquetrie; and even in art, the graceful negligence of nature is imitated in the decoration of our modern dwellings, in showy contrast to the geometrical embellishments and prim finery of the houses of half a century ago. And this is true alike in public as well as in private edifices. One of the recently built theaters, in this city, in place of the meaningless frescoes surrounding its proscenium arch, substitutes huge palm trees with their broad leaves (of tin) drooping from their summits; another fills its lobby with vases of flowers and trailing plants, while a third arranges similar ornaments in conspicuous places in its auditorium, and rumor says a fountain is to be constructed in the center of the parquette.—*Scientific American.*

A TOWER TALLER THAN BABEL.

Messrs. Clarke, Reeves & Co., proprietors of the Phoenixville Bridge Works, Philadelphia, Pa., propose to construct a wrought iron tower, one thousand feet in height, to be completed for the American Centennial Exhibition in 1876. The tower is to be circular in section, one hundred and fifty feet in diameter at the base, diminishing to thirty feet at the top. It is proposed to have spiral stair-cases winding around the center tube for those preferring to walk up; but elevators will be provided, which are calculated to ascend to the top in three minutes. We have in process of engraving a full page illustration, representing the tower in contrast with St. Peter's Cathedral, Rome, St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Bunker Hill Monument, the Pyramids of Egypt, and other existing tall structures, all of which, alongside of the thousand feet tower, look like pigmies.—*Scientific American.*

A NEW WEATHER VANE.

The old weathercock has three essential faults; it indicates a direction when there is a dead calm, it gives no means of learning the force of the wind, while it fails to show the true course of the same, by exhibiting merely its horizontal component. M. Tany proposes the arrangement to be attached to the ordinary lightning rod. Just above a suitable shoulder on the latter is placed a copper ring, grooved and made into a pulley easily rotated in a horizontal plane. Around this passes a knotted cord, the ends of which are secured to the extremities of a short stick or metal rod, to which is secured a simple streamer. Thus constructed, the vane indicates a calm by falling vertically, and besides shows the strength of the wind by being blown out more or less from the lightning rod. As is evident, it is capable of motion in every direction, so that if there exist in the wind an upward tending vertical component, the same will be shown.

AQUEOUS EXHALATION OF PLANTS.

M. Barthelemy, after a series of experiments on the above subject, concludes that in plants there is an insensible exhalation throughout the entire cuticular surface, through the medium of a true gaseous dialysis; that there is an abrupt emission of saturated gases which escape by breathing apertures when the plant is submitted to a rapid elevation of temperature, especially when under a bell glass; and that there is finally an accidental exudation, the result of defects in equilibrium between the absorbent action of the roots and the work in the aerial portions for the fixing of the carbon added to the elements of the water, a labor which ceases when light disappears.

THE VALUE OF SEWAGE.

Commenting on the sewage question and notably with reference to the utilization of the waste soil from Liverpool sewers, a writer in *Iron* estimates that a town of 100,000 inhabitants produces fertilizing material to the value of \$250,000 per annum. In the above mentioned city, it is considered that the sewage, if properly utilized, would be worth fully \$750,000 a year. The entire population of Great Britain, with all her colonies, is about 75,000,000 souls, and each person produces annually about two and a half dollars worth of valuable material. Hence the aggregate amount is valued at \$187,500,000, a sum equal to the joint annual yield of the Australian and Californian gold mines. Applying this vast total to the agricultural purposes, it would produce fully ten times its value in breadstuffs, beef, milk, butter, and all kinds of vegetable and animal food. The United States contain about 40,000,000 people, and hence \$100,000,000 worth of useful substance is yearly wasted; a sum, it is hardly necessary to say, which, if added to the finances of the country, would lessen the chances of future panics and aid materially in paying off the national debt.

THE SUPPRESSED MEMBER.

Of all tyrants, the most tyrannical is custom. As capricious as the King of Dahomey, she is as inexorable as Mrs. Grundy. There is no king or kaiser whose rule is so burdensome or so mockingly endured, the secret of her power lying in the delusion of her subjects that they are wholly free. Her laws are the only laws that perpetuate themselves; and though originally mere freaks of barbaric fancy, or usages of some forgotten stage of social development, they have become part of the social framework, and are harder to shake off than Sinbad's old man of the sea. Our heaviest taxes are those we pay to custom, her tribute takers, with fernseed in their shoes, finding their way into the innermost recesses of our daily life and controlling our conduct where we least suspect it.

A thousand illustrations might be given; but just now our wish is to call attention simply to one; our habitual and unreasonnable suppression of a member whose cultivation would immensely increase our executive power, and prevent our being utterly disabled by certain accidents which all are liable to. The oriental custom of restricting education to the male half of the race seems to occidental minds at once unprofitable and absurd. What then would we think of a custom which should effect the systematic repression, not of the girls merely, but of half the boys; requiring number one of every pair of boys to be trained to the utmost strength and skill, and condemning number two to awkwardness, inaction and weakness? Worse than that: allowing him to do nothing not directly and necessarily subservient to number one, yet requiring him always to take number one's place in case he should meet with an injury. Such unprofitable servitude to other customs than our own would certainly be accounted ridiculous in the extreme; but after all, is it so much worse than our careful repression of the sinister half of each boy's working members?

"Don't use that hand" and "Use your right hand" are injunctions that the child hears from the very first; and before he is old enough to understand the spoken words, the outstretched left hand is put back and the coveted toy given only to the right.

"Why?" he asks as soon as he is old enough to demand a reason for the slight put upon the unoffending member.

"Because," replies mamma, sagely, "it is awkward," or, "it isn't polite."

Why it should be awkward or impolite to use the left hand, mamma never thinks to enquire. That the exigencies of military discipline in some fighting age of forgotten barbarism made it necessary that all men should give preference to the same hand, or some other equally wise and potent reason established the custom at a time when one skillful hand was enough for one person, mamma neither knows or cares; nor does it occur to her that times change, and that a good rule for one generation may be a bad one for another. Grant that social convenience is favored by the uniform use of the right hand for certain purposes that is no sufficient reason for subordinating the left hand in all things, especially when the conditions of our lives and occupations make it very frequently imperative that the untrained left hand shall learn to do the work of the disabled right hand.

From the nursery the boy goes to school, and here the same unreasonable prejudice awaits him. Through instinct, accident, or caprice, he grasps his pen or pencil with his left hand, and his knuckles are sharply rapped for it. Why should he not be taught to write and draw with both hands? It would take but little if any more time; and if it did, it would only keep him busy during moments which he would otherwise devote to idleness or mischief. The acquisition would never be worthless, and it might be of immense convenience to him. He might never have occasion to use his double capacity after the fashion of the popular scientist and teacher whose two handed black board sketches are such a delight to his auditors, and who is said to pursue his microscopic studies with a pen at one side and a pencil at the other, drawing with one hand and writing with the other as the development of his subject may require; nevertheless his two-fold skill would ever be a possible source of satisfaction and advantage to him. He would be free at any moment to rest a hand exhausted by protracted use without any interruption of his work; he would be less likely to be disabled by trifling hurts; and in case one hand were stiffened by heavy labor, the other might be kept in readiness for delicate manipulations, for writing, drafting and the like.

We have seen more than one ambidextrous artisan whose ability to handle tools with either hand, as occasion demanded, gave him constant advantages over his one handed mates, not only in the avoidance of fatigue, but in the performance of nice work and the overcoming of difficulties, hard to come at by those restricted to the use of a single hand. The right handed man who can use a hammer or a knife readily with his left hand, or can tie or untie a knot when his right hand is otherwise engaged, will find frequent use for his skill. Indeed the advantages we miss through the non-cultivation of the neglected member are infinite in number and of incessant recurrence. They are among the taxes we pay to custom.

It would be useless to recommend the nature to undertake the culture of their left hands. They have been "left" unused and

untrained too long; and the proper time for such work is in childhood and youth, when the muscles are tractable and time abundant. But need it be useless to urge parents to encourage such training on the part of their children, or, at least, not to discourage it?

THE LOCOMOTION OF SERPENTS.

We read that the curse pronounced upon the serpent was, "upon thy belly thou shalt go," and the inference seems to be that, previous to that time, its mode of progression was not upon its belly. This would imply a great anatomical change in the structure of the creature at the time in question, a change which, so far as we are aware, is not proved by paleontological research, and the expression is probably a figurative one, as observed by Dr. Buckland. Serpents progress by the "foldings and windings they make on the ground," and the stiff moveable scales which cross the under portion of the body; but the windings are sideways, not vertical. The structure of the vertebrae is such, that upward and downward undulations are greatly restricted, and many illustrations, showing sharp vertical curves of the body, are exaggerations. Most persons have seen snakes glide slowly and silently, without any contortion. They seemed to progress by some invisible power, but, if permitted to move over the bare hand, an experiment easily tried, a motion of the scales will be perceived. These are elevated and depressed, and act as levers, by which the animal is carried forward. Nor can a serpent progress with facility on the ground, without the resistance afforded by the scales. It is stated that it cannot pass over a plate of glass or other entirely smooth surface. We saw the experiment tried, by placing a small pane of glass in a box, in which was a common black snake. He was made to pass over it repeatedly, but evidently found that he had no foothold on it; and the third time, as he approached it, elevated the forepart of his body slightly, and brought his head down beyond the glass, and, on passing, his body seemed scarcely to touch it. This gave an opportunity to witness the wave-like movements of the scales, that is, of their elevation, which runs from the head to the tail, enabling the animal to move continuously, instead of by a series of minute pushes, as would occur if all the scales be lifted and depressed at once.—*E. Lewis, in Popular Science Monthly for January.*

AN OVERSTRAIN.

Memory is a grand gift when properly educated, but it should not be stimulated more than any other part of the mind. Dr. Richardson says: "I knew an instance in which a child was 'blessed' with a marvellous gift of verbal memory. This being his 'forte,' his teacher, who wished every scholar to be remarkable for something beyond other scholars, played on his 'forte' powerfully, and with wonderful effect. By constant cultivation of the one faculty, this marvellous boy could learn off fifty lines of Paradise Lost, or any other English book, at a single reading, and could repeat his lesson on the spot without missing a word or omitting a comma. But the result was this, that when the remarkable boy was sent to a university to learn a profession, he was beaten in the learning of detailed and detached facts by every fellow-student. Seeing, slowly but surely, where his weakness lay, this student ceased at last to call into play his remarkable talent. It was a terrible task; he accomplished it at last, to a considerable degree, but never effectually. For a long time he made mistakes that were most annoying; he was unable, for instance, to cast up accurately any column of figures; he forgot dates, he ran over or under important appointments, mis-named authors in speaking of works of art or letters; and in reasoning, he would mix up two or three subjects. It took him full ten years to unlearn his wonderful technical art."

THE PRESS.

The press is the guardian of our liberties. To keep it pure in its sentiments, is to add to its power and influence for good. A corrupt newspaper, like the deadly Upas tree, poisons all who come in contact with it. To accept its teachings, is to drink the unwholesome water flowing from a poisonous fountain. The pure sentiments of a good paper are to the mind what the cool sparkling water is to the body—refreshing and health giving. Newspapers that teach justice and morality, and advocate honesty and patriotism as the basis of good government should receive liberal support from all citizens who desire to advance the best interest of the public. A good paper should never languish for the want of support. It should be upheld, strengthened, and its usefulness enlarged by the patronage of those who believe in its sentiments. The great journals of our large cities may tend to enlighten the people on the news of the world, but to the country press, exerting its quiet influence in every section of our land we are indebted for the moulding of public sentiments on all important public questions.

Scatter diligently into susceptible minds the germs of the true and beautiful.

HUMOROUS.

A BIG BLOW.

Recently, while the chief engineer of a lung-ster was expatiating upon the benefits to be derived from the free use of his instrument, a cadaverous individual stepped out of the crowd and remarked to him:

"Yes, sir, certainly; it would expand your chest, give elasticity to your lungs, and lengthen your life. Why, you'd soon be able to blow 500 pounds and win the \$5 prize."

"Why, does a fellow get \$5 when he blows that many pounds?"

"Yes, sir; wouldn't you like to make a trial?" with a knowing wink to the crowd.

"I don't care if I do," said Greens, walking around and plucking down a dime of the greasy shinplaster sort.

Then taking the mouth-piece in his hand, he made ready. He opened his mouth until the hole in his face looked like a dry-dock for ocean steamers, and began to take wind. The inflation was like that of the Graphic balloon, but not so disastrous. That fellow's chest began to grow and distend until he resembled a pouter pigeon more than a man, at which point he put the mouth-piece to his lips and blew with such force that his eyes came out and stood around on his cheek-bones to see what was the matter—but that can top went up like a flash, and the needle of the indicator spun around like the button on a country school-house door, until it stood at 500 pounds. The crowd cheered, and the keeper of the can paid over the \$5 in stamps, with a mutter of astonishment. But Greens pocketed them coolly, and turning to the spectators, said:—

"Look here, gents, that ain't nothing to do at all for a man who has been a bugler in a deaf and dumb asylum for seven years, like me!"

LOVE AND MATHEMATICS.

John August Musculus, one of the most popular German story-writers of the last century, in his story of "Libussa," makes the Lady of Bohemia put forth the following problem to her three lovers, offering her hand and throne as the prize for a correct solution:

"I have here in my basket," said the Lady Libussa, "a gift of plums for each of you, picked from my garden. One of you shall have half and one more, the second shall have half and one more, and the third have half and three more. This will empty my basket. Now tell me how many plums are in it?"

The first knight made a random guess at three-score.

"No," replied the lady; "but if there were as many more, half as many more, and a third as many more as there now are in the basket, with five more added to that, the number would by so much more exceed three-score as it now falls short of it."

The second knight, getting awfully bewildered, speculated wildly on forty-five.

"Not so," said this royal ready-reckoner; "but if there were a third as many more, half as many more, and a sixth as many more as there are now, there would be in my basket as many more than forty-five as there now are under that number."

Prince Wladimir then decided the number of plums to be thirty, and by so doing obtained this invaluable housekeeper as his wife. The Lady Libussa thereupon counted him out fifteen plums and one more, when there remained fourteen. To the second knight she gave seven and one more, and six remained. To the first knight she gave half of these and three more; and the basket was empty. The discarded lovers went off with their heads exceedingly giddy, and their mouths full of plums.

TAKEN AT HIS WORD.

An amusing incident in connection with the Westminster County Court, London, England, is that which, we are assured, is absolutely true. One day last week a case was being heard in the court in question, in which plaintiff and defendant were both costermongers, who had dealings about a donkey, and a dispute as to balance due. The swearing was particularly hard on both sides, and used as is the learned judge to extracting the truth from such collisions of evidence, he seemed on this occasion almost at a loss. But luncheon time arriving, he said to both parties to the suit, "The court will now adjourn for half an hour, and in the meantime you had better settle the case by yourselves outside." The two men looked after him in astonishment as he quitted the court, and when he disappeared plaintiff, turning to defendant, exclaimed, "You heard what his honor said, Bill. I suppose he means it." "Oh! yes, I suppose so—come on outside." And both of them went into St. Martin's Court, pulled off their coats, and began to "settle it," before an admiring audience of small boys, county court officials and policemen, all of whom assumed that the judge had ordered them to fight it out. After a few rounds the plaintiff acknowledged himself satisfied, the two shook hands, and went into the "Old Round Table," and drank "Long life to the judge." But Mr. Bayley's surprise, when on his return to the court he learned from the usher that his suitors had taken him literally, may be imagined. He only said, "Very terrible. We might be charged with aiding and abetting a breach of the peace."

Just takes these two lines to fill out this column.

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES JOHNSON SMITH.

County of York, to-wit: I, James Johnson Smith, of the City of Toronto, in the County of York, make oath and say, as follows:—

1. That I was engaged as a carpenter on the Central Prison works from the third to the thirteenth day of December last.

2. Shortly after I commenced to work there, I found that the men engaged there on the said work were frequently canvassed by the foreman of the different departments in favor of Thomas Moss, the Government candidate in the election for West Toronto. On the morning of the day of nomination in the said election, one Foster, the foreman in the carpenters' department, went around among the men of his department and said that every man there must attend the nomination, between twelve and one o'clock, and remain there till after the nomination was over. And if any left before the proceedings were over he would have his time stopped; but if they remained till all was over they would be paid.

When questioned by the men, myself among others, why we were ordered to attend, he said "I cannot help it, it is my orders from the Commissioner." The said Foster further said that we were to go to the nomination for the purpose of cheering for Moss, or words to that effect. Accordingly, the said workmen did attend at said nomination, but I was not paid for the half day because, as I verily believe, on account of being a supporter of Mr. Bickford; although the others who supported Mr. Moss were, I am informed, and verily believe, paid for the same time as promised by the said Foster.

In the forenoon of the Saturday previous to the election, the said Foster came among the men at the works, and asked them for whom they intended to vote, and took the names on a card.

He came to me and asked me how I intended to vote, and I answered, "for Bickford." Foster told me in reply that if I did so vote I must put up with the consequences, and asked me if I could not stop at home and not vote at all. I replied that I had promised my vote to Mr. Bickford, and for him I would vote; he then said "all right" and left me. About four o'clock that afternoon Foster paid me off and discharged me from the work without any cause being assigned and without notice other than what I have stated.

I verily believe that the cause of my being discharged was on account of my intention to vote for Mr. Bickford in the late election, and against Mr. Moss, the Government candidate.

I have since applied to Foster for employment at the said works, but have been refused.

I frequently saw Mr. McKellar, the Commissioner of Public Works of the Province of Ontario, engaged in conversation with the foremen of the different departments at the said works, and have every reason to believe that such visits were made for the purpose of influencing the electors there in favor of Mr. Moss in the late election.

JAMES JOHNSON SMITH.

Sworn before me at Dover Court, 5th Jan., 1874.

R. L. DENISON, J. P.

This plain and straightforward statement, made under oath, leaves no room to doubt that intimidation was resorted to; but before saying anything further on the subject, we wait the promised investigation of Mr. McKellar.

THE ASSOCIATED MINERS.

The Associated Miners of England have been sitting in Conference at Leeds. The whole trade is in circumstances of perfect peace. During the past year there has been no strike, and no occasion for a single levy. The delegates assembled represented 130,000 men. Mr. Macdonald, as President, rebutted the charge that the working miners had caused the advance in the price of coals, and were driving trade out of the country. Trade is brisker now than at any time since 1866; and this notwithstanding the increase of miners' wages. These conclusions are amply sustained by the report of the deputation. The real cost of coal at the pit's mouth is seven shillings a ton; the miner gets 1s. 10d. of this: let the consumer ask himself what causes the difference between seven and six times seven! The facts and reasoning of the report were fully borne out by the President in his comprehensive and able speech. A hundred thousand colliers are now working under Councils of Conciliation. Nevertheless, they must look to it for themselves that the Miners' Act is fairly and fully carried out, and that the Criminal Law Amendment Act be either repealed or made equally applicable to all parties, masters and men. With respect to representation of labor in Parliament, Mr. Macdonald earnestly advised the trade to make up their minds what they would do, and then either do or let alone. Adverting to co-operative production, he urged it till the mass of the industry of the country should be carried on by that means alone.

The New Haven Union says: The word is passing around, "strike down the wages of labor"—"throw upon industry the burdens of stock gambling and speculation." We do not know but this is necessary to preserve the solvency of great corporations says *For Populi*, but we do know that it is wrong. Are railroad companies reduc-

ing passenger fares, and the price of grain carriage? Are manufacturers charging less for their fabrics? Has merchandise fallen? Have rents fallen? Have groceries fallen? Has fuel fallen? Has anything fallen in price, that labor must purchase or suffer, and perhaps perish for the want of it? To strip workmen of part of their wages is to create an unequal condition—forcing them, while receiving less, to pay more than their share of the inflation that oppresses every interest of society. Are manufacturers to keep their swindling tariff; railroads their monopoly bankers their exclusive currency issues; and every profession its rates, while labor alone is to bleed and suffer? Is this the feast to which the monopolies have invited the workmen of the country? Are the families of men really of no value, and must little children lack food and clothing, that capital and class interest may be pampered?

CIVIC ELECTIONS.

The municipal elections on Monday passed off in a very quiet and orderly manner, though considerable enthusiasm and electioneering spirit was manifested, especially in the early part of the day. The contest for the mayoralty was keen throughout, between Mr. Medcalf and Mr. A. M. Smith.—Mr. Manning virtually retiring before noon. The election resulted in a majority of 248 for "old square-toes," and we feel satisfied Mr. Medcalf will as faithfully perform the duties of his office as when he was previously elected to that position by the *vox populi*.

No changes have been made in the board of Water Commissioners. Mr. Edwards kept close at the heels of Mr. Greenless, but at the close of the poll, was 300 behind. The election for aldermen resulted as follows:—

- St. Lawrence Ward.—Messrs. Britton, Hamilton, and Close.
- St. David's Ward.—Messrs. Martin, Davies, and Blevins.
- St. Thomas' Ward.—Messrs. Withrow, Mutton, and Adamson.
- St. James' Ward.—Messrs. Bonstead, Henderson, and Sheard.
- St. John's Ward.—Messrs. Gearing, Downey, and Spence.
- St. Patrick's Ward.—Messrs. Mallon, Baxter, and Ball.
- St. Andrew's Ward.—Messrs. Dunn, Hayes, and Farley.
- St. George's Ward.—Messrs. Colwell, Tuning, and Clements.

BRICKLAYER'S AND MASONS' UNION.

At the semi-annual election, on the 2nd inst., of the Bricklayers' and Masons' Union, No. 1, Ontario, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term:—President, J. Jolly; Vice-President, K. McGee; Recording Secretary, J. Kennedy; Financial Secretary, T. Carre; Corresponding Secretary, Frank Hunnisett; Treasurer, K. Castle; Tylers, J. Simpson, and F. Bullock; Delegates to Toronto Trades' Assembly, T. Story, J. Summerhays, W. P. Parsons.

K. O. S. C. No. 159.

At the regular meeting of Lodge No. 159, K. O. S. C., held in the Trades' Assembly Hall, on Tuesday evening 6th inst., the following officers were duly installed:—Bro. Wm. Brown, D.; Bro. David Strachan, Sir Knight; Bro. Wm. Lennox, K.; Bro. Robert Stark, F. S.; Bro. Wm. McCormick, R. S.; Bro. Wm. Johnson, C. S.; Bro. John Davis, Treasurer; Bro. R. Eyer, Usher; Bro. Jas. Brown, A. U.; Bro. John Irvin, G. S.; Trustees, Samuel Marshall, A. Lloyd, Wm. Brown. Delegates to Trades' Assembly, D. Strachan, R. Eyer, Wm. Brown, and C. Kusiar.

PAINTERS' UNION.

The election of officers of the Painters Union of Toronto, No. 1 of the Canadian Labor Union, for the ensuing quarter took place on Monday last, when the following were unanimously appointed:—Mr. Henry Armstrong, President; Mr. Powell, Vice-President; Mr. Henry Leech, Financial Secretary; Mr. Henry Norwich, Recording Secretary; Mr. John W. Carter, Treasurer. Messrs. R. D. Mowatt, Powell, and J. W. Carter, were appointed delegates to the Trades' Assembly. Messrs. R. D. Mowatt, and G. Harris, Auditors.

MR. CHAS. FISHER has announced himself as a candidate for School Trustee for the Ward of St. John. Mr. Fisher is so well-known in the ward, that we are sure the ratepayers will be glad to have him serve them in the interest of education.

GRAND TRUNK BALL.

The Grand Trunk Ball will take place tomorrow (Friday) evening in the St. Lawrence Hall. Under the management of so efficient a committee as have been appointed, we are sure all who attend will have a pleasant time.

FIREMAN'S BALL.

The members of the Toronto Fire Brigade intend celebrating their third annual ball in the Music Hall, on Tuesday evening, January 20th. The city has reason to feel proud of its Fire Brigade, and we doubt not their social gathering will be largely attended. We expect a full hall will greet "the men who face death," on the evening of the 20th inst.

KNIGHTS OF MALTA.

The Knights of Malta of this city intend celebrating their second anniversary by a Grand Ball in the Music Hall, on Friday evening January 16th. Those who were present at their first Ball will long have in remembrance the pleasure afforded on that occasion and the members of the committee are determined that the coming Ball shall prove still more attractive than the last, if possible.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Mr. Z. R. Triganne, lessee and proprietor of this popular place of amusement, evidently understands the force of the old adage that "variety is charming." He has accordingly secured an engagement with the Leroux Bros., George, Thomas, Alphonse and Edgar, who are deservedly pronounced the monarchs of gymnasts. Miss Emma Roberts, the famous serio-comic vocalist and danseuse, appears nightly with great success, while the comicalities of Ned West are as irresistible as ever. There are many other attractions, and altogether the performances are pleasing in the extreme.

We understand that Mr. Robert Graham is proposed at Ottawa as the Workingman's Candidate for the Local House. We have received no particulars in reference to the matter, and should like to hear from our friends in that city.

SHORT SERMONS.

NO. V.

BY A LAY PREACHER.

Other men labored, and ye are entered into their labors.—John, iv. 38.

MY FRIENDS,—I have heretofore presented to your attention the words of holy men of old, who spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost—of men who lived before "the day spring from on high visited us." I ask you now to come with me and hear the words of Jesus—wiser than Solomon. While listening to Him, let us still keep in mind the thought with which we started—the searching of the Scripture for the clearest light, the wisest counsel, in our efforts to work righteously and to most surely obtain the reward.

The discourse in which Christ uses the words of our text is one in which He urges upon His chosen messengers of Grace the duty of pressing the work of reforming the social world to its completion. He shows them on one hand, that the work of early prophets was not to be rejected in preaching the new gospel; they had spoken sure words in foretelling the coming of a better day—a day in which the wages of the hireling would not be withheld; in which oppressive measure should not be exacted of him who labored for his bread; in which he who planted a garden should eat the fruit thereof; in which the "husbandman that labored should be first partaker of the fruits." And, on the other hand, He showed them that it would be their duty betimes to go and preach where the words of prophecy had not been heard. Here they would have to begin an entirely new work, and often before they would see the result of their mission, they would enter into rest, and others would rise up and, following the course marked out by the pioneers, would win many to a belief in the doctrines preached—and, naturally enough, enjoy large comforts and sometimes profit in the harvest.

So starting, Jesus guides His disciples over and beyond a barrier where many men hesitate, and some fail entirely. There be many who, when invited to join in the God-devised plan of union—either in productive labor or in securing labor's reward—refuse consent, or, worse, positively oppose, because some one or more of those who have given life to a specific enterprise or conducted some organization to a commanding position, have failed to make themselves wealthy. Many others object because themselves would have heavy labor planting, and others easy time gathering. To such as these does He who spake as

never man spake, address the strongest argument that could be worded. What we have we owe chiefly to the toil of others before us. For ourselves, for our children, we are in duty bound to so work that we may produce the largest, best results; to reap in full the fruits of those who have sown good seed in advance of us. And union in labor and commerce is not now an experiment—"the field is white to the harvest."

Let us heed the counsel of the great Teacher come from God. With Him who worketh in us, LET US WORK TOGETHER.

Correspondence.

ST. CATHARINES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

ANOTHER UNION IN ST. CATHARINES.

A few days ago a meeting of the painters was held in the Temperance Hall, Haynes' Block, St. Paul Street, to take into consideration the propriety of forming a Painter's Union. Mr. Swanson occupied the Chair, there was a fair attendance. Messrs. Magness, Carroll, Terment, and Cook were there by invitation, and addressed the meeting, after which it was resolved to form a union. The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. Chapman; Secretary, Mr. Swanson; Treasurer, Mr. Harris. On the suggestion of the chairman, the election of the other officers was delayed till next meeting. On the motion of Mr. Swanson duly seconded a cordial vote of thanks was awarded to Messrs. Magness, Carroll Terment and Cook, for their attendance and sympathy. Carried unanimously. The above gentlemen returned thanks for the compliment. We feel it but just to say, that great praise is due to Mr. Swanson in getting up the above meeting, and we feel safe in saying that as Secretary, he is the right man in the right place. This being the seventh union in town, we think it high time that a Trades' Assembly was formed in St. Catharines—with such men amongst us as Magness, York, Carrell, and Cook, success would be certain.

TRADES SUPPER.

There is considerable talk just now about the propriety of having a united trades supper. We trust this matter will be at once gone into, as we feel sure in many respects it would have an excellent tendency. The idea is to have it the hall where the most of the societies meet for business, it would hold a hundred comfortably.

STATE OF TRADE.

Trade, we regret to say, is getting very dull in town, large numbers may be seen every day walking our streets out of employment, and as a consequence, there is a good deal of suffering.

St. Catharines, Jan. 3, 1874.

JUDICIAL DECISIONS IN RELATION TO LORD'S DAY OBSERVANCE.

(To the Editor of the Ontario Workman.)

Sir,—Man would never have been so merciful to man as to grant him one day in seven, on which to rest from his labor. I express this conviction least I should be misunderstood with regard to the remarks which follow:

I had not long reached this country before my attention was arrested by the extent to which the administration of the law is influenced by traditional views respecting Sunday observance. While on the one hand, it is highly desirable that the laws of man should, so far as possible, be a faithful reflex of the law of God, it is not less necessary to avoid substituting human misapprehensions for God's laws, and palming them off for divine. I know not whether, in the present instance, the error attaches to the law of the land, or to its administration—in either case, the practice is the same. The fact to which I desire to draw attention is the assumption that certain relaxations permissible on week-days are not to be tolerated on Sundays—that deeds reprehensible enough on ordinary days, are doubly so on Sundays, &c., &c.

I wish, so far as possible, to avoid trenching on the metaphysical aspect of what is termed the Sabbath question, but when one finds the magisterial bench doing duty as sounding-board to certain pulpits, the teaching of which, on this subject is decidedly unsound, it appears to be time to protest.

I therefore unhesitatingly avow that whatever the authority be whose sanction is invoked for the support of the judgments above indicated; it is not that of the Almighty. In proof of the non-sabbatical character of Sunday, I will merely refer to two or three sacred passages, and add a few facts for the consideration of those who are capable of weighing them against a

tradition traceable to the time of Cromwell. The first passage to which I refer, is contained in Matt., xxviii. 1 where the distinction between the seventh and the first day of the week is as marked as words can make it. A similar passage occurs in Mark xvi. 1, 2.

The conclusive teaching of the Apostle Paul (Col. 2. 17) as to the evanescent character of the day in question, is the only additional Biblical authority to which I shall advert. We have the testimony of Cyprian, Justin Martyr, and others of the fathers to the effect that there was no confusion between the seventh and the first day for the first three centuries. Josephus also may be cited to the same effect.

Not to multiply witnesses unduly, I will merely observe, that the Church of Rome has never attached aught of a sabbatic character to the Sunday. It is not until the times of the Paritans that we meet with well intentioned efforts to sabbaticize that day, hence I feel it incumbent upon me to protest against a baseless assumption with regard to the day, being made the ground for the infliction of penalties on account of the breach of its reputed sanctity. As I am in no position to encounter a hostile army, I avail myself of the privilege of the Press and subscribe myself.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

Mr Redgrave, Inspector of factories, in his forty-first report upon the state and condition of workshops, in England, says:—

I consider the closing factories not later than 1 p.m. on Saturdays has been of great advantage and comfort to the operatives and I should regret if it could not be maintained.

It appears to me, therefore, to be most desirable that in any legislation for reducing the hours of work provision should be made for permitting these modifications of the hours of work to be maintained as a part of any proposed reduction.

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AT

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248 and 250 YONGE STREET, TORONTO.

GENTS' OVER-SHOES!

New Patent Clasp, the Best and Cheapest ever offered in the City,

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CHRISTMAS GOODS

FANCY WOOL SOARFS, CARDIGAN JACKETS, FANCY WOOL CUFFS, SHIRT STUDS, ETC., Shirts, Collars, Ties, Gloves & Hosiery

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One of our Cheap Dresses would be an acceptable Christmas Present. One of our COSTUMES would be an acceptable Christmas Present.

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IN PRESS:

To be Published in November, 1873: LOVELL'S GAZETTEER OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA: containing the latest and most authentic descriptions of over six thousand Cities, Towns and Villages in the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, British Columbia, and the North-West Territories; and general information, drawn from official sources, as to the name, locality, extent, &c., of over fifteen hundred Lakes and Rivers, with a Table of Routes showing the proximity of the Railroad Stations, and Sea, Lake, and River Ports, to the Cities, Towns, Villages, &c., in the several Provinces. Prices in Cloth, \$2 50; Price in Full Cloth, \$3 75. Agents wanted to canvass for the work. JOHN LOVELL, Publisher. Montreal, 9th August, 1873.

The Home Circle.

MYSTERY.

Listen, listen to the breeze
Murmuring among the trees!
"All is mystery!"

Tell me, breezes soft and low,
Tell me, zephyrs that doth blow,
With thy strange, uncertain flow,
What the mystery!

Listen, listen to the stream,
Babbling over doth it seem—
"All is mystery!"

Tell me, streamlet, rippling by,
With thy babble and thy sigh,
With thy sweet-voiced warblers shy,
What the mystery!

Listen, listen to the wave,
Singing to the sailor brave—
"All is mystery!"

Tell me, tell me, waves so bright,
Sparkling in the sunny light,
With thy creating diamond light,
What the mystery!

Listen, listen to the rain
Pattering upon the pane—
"All is mystery!"

Tell me, rain drops, tell to me
What thou say'st incessantly,
What thou say'st so tearfully,
What the mystery!

Mystery, O mystery!
Life and time are mysteries;
"All is mystery!"

Thus the sunshine and the rain,
Thus the pleasure and the pain,
Birth and death, despair and fame,
All is mystery.

WAITING FOR PAPA.

There's a sweet and home-like picture,
In the little parlor bright,
With the sparkling, flashing firelight
Shooting gleams of crimson light.
O'er the window, framed in ivy,
And the paintings on the wall,
Lighting up three childish faces—
Sweetest pictures of them all.

Without, the night is dark and cloudy,
And the dreary autumn rain,
Like the touch of ghostly fingers,
Beats upon the window pane.
But the wild and solemn voices
Of the outward raging storm,
Seem to make the contrast greater,
In the parlor bright and warm.

Watching from the vine-wreathed window,
In the fading light of day,
Till papa shall turn the corner,
Coming up the garden way.
Three sweet, dimpled, childish faces—
Katy in her dress of blue,
Rosy cheeks, and sunny ringlets,
And her eyes of heaven's own hue.

Quiet Mead with her hair smooth-braided,
And her tender, gentle way,
Watching o'er the restless motions
Of the pet, and baby, May.
Hark! they hear a well-known footstep,
See a figure straight and tall;
Forth they rush with eager faces,
To meet father in the hall.

Oh, we read of white robed angels
Watching o'er this world of sin,
Can they be much purer, sweeter,
Than the childish forms within?
Watching through the storm and darkness
Till the well beloved shall come,
Where they wait to greet and bless him
When day's weary toil is done?

A TOUCH OF NATURE.

AN INCIDENT OF RAILWAY TRAVEL.

A correspondent of the Washington Capital thus writes an incident on the Boston and Albany Railway, not many weeks ago:—

I ran across what first struck me as a very singular genius on my road from Springfield to Boston. This was a stout, black whiskered man, who sat immediately in front of me, and who indulged, from time to time, in the most strange and unaccountable manoeuvres. Every now and then he would get up and hurry away to the narrow passage which leads to the door in these drawing room cars, and, when he thought himself secure from observation, would fall to laughing in the most violent manner, and continue the healthful exercise until he was as red in the face as a lobster. As we neared Boston, these demonstrations increased in violence, save that the stranger no longer ran away to laugh, but kept his seat and chuckled to himself with his chin deep down in his shirt collar. But the changes that those portmanteaus underwent! He moved them here, there, everywhere; he put them behind him, in front of him, on each side of him. He was evidently getting ready to leave, but, as we were yet twenty-five miles from Boston, the idea of such early preparations was ridiculous. If we had entered the city then, the mystery would have remained unsolved, but the stranger at last became so excited that he could keep his seat no longer. Some one must help him, and as I was the nearest he selected me. Suddenly turning, as if I had asked a question, he said, rocking himself to and fro in his chair in the

meantime, and slapping his legs and breathing hard:

"Been gone three years."

"Ah!"

"Yes, been in Europe. Folks don't expect me for six months yet, but I got through and started; I telegraphed them at the last station; they've got it by this time."

As he said this he rubbed his hands and changed the portmanteau on his left to the right, and the one on the right to the left again.

"Got a wife?" said I.

"Yes, and three children," he returned, and he got up and folded his overcoat anew, and hung it over the back of the seat.

"You are pretty nervous over the matter, ain't you?" I said, watching his fidgety movements.

"Well, I should think so," replied; "I hain't slept soundly for a week, and do you know," he went on, glancing around at the passengers, and speaking in a lower tone, "I am almost certain that the train will run off the track and break my neck before I get to Boston. Well, the fact is, I have had too much good luck for one man lately. The thing can't last; tain't natural that it should, you know. I've watched it. First it rains, then it shines, then it rains again. It rains so hard you think it's never going to stop; then it shines so brightly you think it's always going to shine; and just as you're settled in either belief, you are knocked over by a change, to show you that you know nothing about it."

"Well, according to the philosophy," said I, "you will continue to have sunshine, because you are expecting a storm."

"It's curious," he returned, "but the only thing which makes me think I will get through safe, is because I think I won't."

"Well, that is curious," said I.

"Lord, yes," he replied, "I'm a machinist—made a discovery—nobody believed in it; spent all my money trying to bring it out—mortgaged my home—all went. Everybody laughed at me—everybody but my wife—spunky little woman—said she would work her fingers off before I should give it up. Went to England—no better there; came within an ace of jumping off London Bridge. Went into a shop to earn money enough to come home with; there I met the man I wanted. To make a long story short, I've brought £30,000 home with me, and here I am."

"Good for you!" I exclaimed.

"Yes," said he, "£30,000; and the best of it is, she don't know anything about it. I've fooled her so often, and disappointed her so much, that I just concluded I would say nothing about this. When I got my money through, you better believe I struck a bee line for home."

"And now you will make her happy," said I.

"Happy!" he replied, "why you don't know anything about it. She's worked like a dog while I've been gone, trying to support herself and the children decently. They paid her thirteen cents apiece for making coarse shirts; and that's the way she'd live half the time. She'll come down there to the depot to meet me in a gingham dress, and a shawl a hundred years old, and she'll think she's dressed up. Oh, won't she have no clothes after this—oh, no, I guess not!"

And with these words, which implied that his wife's wardrobe would soon rival Queen Victoria's, the stranger tore down the passage-way again, and getting in his old corner where he thought himself out of sight, went through the strangest pantomime, laughing, putting his mouth in the drooliest shapes, and then swinging himself back and forth in the limited space as if he were "Walking down Broadway, a full-rigged metropolitan belle. And so on till we rolled into the depot, and I placed myself on the other car, opposite the stranger, who, with a portmanteau in each hand, had descended and was standing on the lowest step, ready to jump to the platform. I looked at his gaze to the faces of the people before us, but saw no sign of recognition. Suddenly he cried, "there they are!" and laughed outright, but in an hysterical sort of a way, as he looked over the crowd. I followed his eyes and saw, some distance back, as if crowded out and shouldered away by the well dressed and elbowing throng, a little woman in a faded dress and a well worn hat, with a face almost painful in its intense but hopeful expression, glancing rapidly from window to window as the coaches glided in. She had not yet seen the stranger; but a moment after she caught his eye, and in another instant he had jumped to the platform with his two portmanteaus; and making a hole in the crowd, pushing one here and another there, and running one of his bundles plump into the well developed stomach of a venerable looking old gentleman in spectacles he rushed toward the place where she was standing. I think I never saw a face assume so many different expressions in so short a time as did that of the little woman, while her husband was on his way to her. She didn't look pretty. On the contrary, she looked very plain, but somehow I felt a big lump rise in my throat as I watched her. She was trying to laugh; but God bless her, how completely she failed in the attempt! Her mouth got into the position; but it never moved after that, save to draw down at the corners and quiver while she blinked her eyes so fast; that I suspect she only caught occasional glimpses of the broad-shouldered

fellow who elbowed his way so rapidly toward her. And then as he drew close and dropped those overlasting portmanteaus, she just turned completely round, with her back toward him, and covered her face with her hands. And thus she was when the strong man gathered her up in his arms as if she had been a baby, and held her sobbing to his breast. There were enough gaping at them. Heaven knows, and I turned my eyes away a moment, and then I saw two boys in threadbare roundabouts standing near, wiping their eyes and noses on their little coat-sleeves, and bursting out anew at every fresh demonstration on the part of their mother. When I looked at the stranger again he had his hat drawn down over his eyes; but his wife was looking up at him, and it seemed as if the pent-up tears of those weary months of waiting were streaming through her eyelids.

PRESENCE OF MIND.

REV. F. W. HOLLAND.

There is one grand quality signally neglected, almost never taught, nowhere prized at its true value, seldom, yet certain to avert many a disaster and deliver from many a peril. Were parents and teachers accustomed to show their young ones how self-command in some unexpected emergency, as in an outbreak of fire at midnight, would not only save themselves, but rescue a whole company of friends or fellow pupils, were the various means of escape shown, and the necessity of instant decision enforced, many a valuable life (to say nothing to property) would be saved. So intelligently as ours, ought not, in this advanced period of thought, to be so easily overwhelmed by calamity, when one woman's prompt and resolute aid would stop the stream at its fountain head. If it is replied, as it will be, that some persons are born without this gift; my answer is that Peter the Great was born without the capacity to endure the sea. Frederick Second with a perfect terror at battle, Paley with indisposition to rise early, Judge Story with a disgust at law books, Washington with impetuous passion—yet all conquered their natural weakness, and so can we if we feel the necessity.

From various quarters facts have come to me of every sort, illustrating in women, and children even, the power of overcoming panic, and turning apparent disaster into an occasion of really sublime virtue.

Instances there are, as we all know, of mothers rushing in frantic fear from a burning dwelling, then remember the dear baby they left asleep in its crib, and flying back through the open passage, to perish vainly in a whirl of mad flames. At the first alarm it would have been easy enough to have seized the child and secured its safety with her own, because the air currents were then cut off; after her own mad hand had given the fire free passage through the house, her own sacrifice came too late to be of any service.

Another mother I knew in this State, awakened from profound sleep by the fierce light in her room, forbidding her husband from opening door or window till she had made a string of sheets, and letting her children down to the ground; then she followed herself, without any serious injury from the stifled flames, and not even a very severe fright, for she had taught herself self-control, and so she was always ready to use the best means and all the means God and nature had put in her hands.

Another story I remember of an English family taking tea in the garden back of their bungalow, one sultry eve, in upper India. Suddenly a grand Bengal tiger made one of the company. The gentlemen, even an army officer, seemed paralysed with fear. One woman alone was master of the occasion. She sprang open a sun umbrella right in the face of the beast, who resented so unusual a reception by leaping over the green hedge and making for the thicket, where he had been hiding. Would not this genius at improvising means have made this lady perfectly invaluable in shipwreck, in midnight conflagration, in burglars' attack, in epidemic disease, in the field hospital of an army, in the panic of a crowded assembly, in railroad collision, in thousands of lesser disasters always aggravated by lack of self-control?

When only thirteen, Sir Astley Cooper showed this rare gift. A little play mate had been crushed by a cart wheel. He was bleeding to death. There was not half time enough to get a surgeon. Astley brought out his silk handkerchief—tied it about the wound—stopped the bleeding effectually, till the surgeon could take the child in charge, whom Astley had really saved. And this event was the principle one to determine the choice of his profession which made him such a signal blessing to mankind.

The best wine I have kept to the last. Manning, a West India merchant, was sitting on a log on the shore of Jamaica, while his companions were bathing. Suddenly he saw a shark making full upon them. Had he cried "shark," one or both would have been overcome by fear. "Fellows, look here," he cried, "you swim miserably. Here is the best repeater in all Jamaica for the one that comes in first. Now do your best." So he kept cheering and stimulating, now one, now the other. When he saw Farnum relaxing his stroke, he reproached him for giving up so easily, when he was sure to win if he only pursued. At last he rushed into the waves himself, his red handkerchief, streaming from

the end of a stick, to divert the man-eater. When Farnum was safe upon the sand, and was told his peril, he fell flat as a log, proving how hopeless he would have been out at sea. —Wood's Magazine.

A MERCIFUL FRIEND.

An elephant belonging to an English garrison in the India, was one day amusing himself with his chain in an open part of the town, when a man who had committed a theft, and was pursued by a great number of people, despairing of all other means of safety, ran under the elephant. Apparently delighted with the poor man's confidence, the creature instantly faced about and met the crowd, erected his trunk, and threw his chain in the air as is the manner of these animals when engaged with the enemy, and became so furious in defence of the criminal that, notwithstanding all the gentle arts made use of by the surrounding multitude, neither they, or even his mahout, or driver, to whom he was fondly attached, and who was sent for to manage him, could prevail with him to give up the malefactor. The animal's loving kindness met with reward. After three hours' contest, the governor heard of this strange rebellion to the laws of the land, and came to the scene of struggle. He was so much pleased with the generous perseverance of the honest quadruped, that he yielded to the elephant's interposition and pardoned the criminal. The poor man, in an ecstasy of gratitude, testified his acknowledgment by kissing and embracing the proboscis of his kind benefactor, who was apparently so sensible of what had happened, that, laying aside all his former violence, he became perfectly tame and gentle in an instant, and suffered his keeper to conduct him away without the least resistance.

DESERVING BOYS.

We like boys who try to help themselves. Every one ought to be friendly to them. The boys of energy and ambition, who make a manly effort to do something for themselves, are the hope of the country. Let their anxious ears catch always words of encouragement and cheer, for such words, like favoring breezes to the sails of a ship, help to bear them forward to the destination they seek.

It is not always as it should be in this respect. Many a heart has been broken—many a young man of industry, and animated by honorable motives, has been discouraged by the sour words, the harsh and unjust remarks of some unfeeling employer, or some relative who should have acted the part of a friend. The unthinking do not consider the weight with which such remarks sometimes fall upon a sensitive spirit, and how they may bruise and break it.

If you cannot do anything to aid and assist young men you ought to abstain from throwing any obstacles in their way. But can you not do something to help them forward? You can at least say God speed to them, and you can say it feelingly from your heart. You little know of how much benefit to boys and young men encouraging counsel, given fitly and well-timed, may be; and in the great day of account, such words addressed to those in need of them you may find reckoned among your good deeds.

Then help the boys who try to help themselves. You can easily recall simple words of kindness addressed to yourself in childhood and youth, and you would like now to kiss the lips that spoke them, though they may long since have been sealed with the silence of death, and covered by the clouds of the valley.

Grains of Gold.

A good man is kinder to his enemy than bad men are to their friends.

True politeness consists in being easy oneself, and making every one about one as easy as one can.

He who receives a good turn should never forget it; he who does one, should never remember it.

Never allow yourself to be idle, whilst others are in want of anything that your hands can make for them.

The power is detested, and miserable is the life of him who wishes rather to be feared than to be loved.

The love of things ancient doth argue staidness; but levity and the want of experience makes men apt unto innovation.

Scorn not at the natural defects of any, which are not in their power to amend. Oh! 'tis cruelty to beat a cripple with his own crutches.

He that does good to another man, does also good to himself; not only in the consequences but in the very act of doing it; for the conscience of well doing is an ample reward.

Those things that are not practicable are not desirable. There is nothing in the world really beneficial that does not lie within the reach of an informed understanding and a well directed pursuit. There is nothing that God has judged good for us, that he has not given us the means to accomplish, both in the natural and the moral world.

THE WORD FAREWELL.—If ever a latent feeling of love and friendship assumes a tender

reality, sweeping the innermost depths of the soul, and kindling sad emotions in two warm hearts, it is a memory lingering upon the departing hour, and we whisper that little but impressive word—farewell.

Happiness is like manna—it is to be gathered in grains, and enjoyed every day. It will not keep, it cannot be accumulated, nor need we go out of ourselves, nor into remote places, to gather it, since it is rained down from heaven at our very doors, or rather within them.

HORROR'S LIGHTS.—The man who carries a lantern on a dark night can have friends all around him, walking safely by the help of its rays, and be not defrauded. So he who has the heaven-gift light of hope in his breast can help on many others in this world's darkness, not to his own loss, but to their precious gain.

MUSIC.—The art of music, whose power has been acknowledged by the most profound thinkers of all ages, is of later growth than her sisters, Poetry, Sculpture, and Painting; and its means of communicating ideas are also less positive and direct; but the principles which govern its manifestations are strictly analogous, and we recognize in its very vagueness that yearning after the infinite, that feeling of ineffable loveliness, which, defying, by the electrical rapidity of its action upon the mind, the slow deductions of reasons and all powers of analysis, approaches the divine in its bright mystery and inexplicable influence upon our sentiments and emotions.

Sawdust and Chips.

Do not run in debt to a shoemaker. It is unpleasant to be unable to say your sole is not your own.

Alluding to Chignons, Mrs. Cleaver said, "a girl now seems all head." "Yes, until you talk to her," answered Mr. Cleaver.

"Are oysters healthy?" asked an old lady of her physician. "I never heard any of them complain of being unwell," was the reply.

"How old are you?" asked a Yankee railroad conductor, of a little girl, whom her mother was trying to pass on a half-ticket, "I'm nine at home, but in the train I'm six and a half."

"How much are these tearful bulbs by the quart?" asked a maiden of a White street grocer, one morning. He stared at her a moment, recovered himself, and said, "Oh, them injuns; eight cents."

A teacher, who, in a fit of vexation, called her pupils a set of young adders, on being reproved for language, apologized by saying that she was speaking to those just commencing their arithmetical.

The vitality of some people is simply astounding. There is a long-haired youth at Buffalo, who has written 700 verses, the refrain to which is, "I am dying mother, dying," and withal he isn't dead.

"Will you take a kiss?" said a young beau to his innamorata as he passed the plate of confections which bore the tempting title "Pie!" exclaimed the blushing fair one, "not until we are out of the room."

Timkins aroused his wife from a sound sleep the other night, saying he had seen a ghost in the shape of an ass. "Oh, let me sleep," was the reply of the irate dame, "and don't be frightened at your own shadow."

A young man who was attending a night writing-school was smitten by the charms of a lady present, and at the close of the school pressed forward and asked if he might escort her home. "Yes," said she, "if you will carry my little boy." He is gradually recovering from the shock.

"How now?" we said to Jones this morning, finding him looking unusually cheerful and brightly, notwithstanding the fact that he had been up pretty nearly all night. "You don't seem to be affected by the crisis." And Jones merely remarked, "No such thing. It's a boy."

A coppersmith, who figured largely in ward-room politics, at a meeting the other night finding the tide turning against him, exclaimed with a magnanimous air:—"I wash my hands of the business." "I guess they need it bad enough," shouted an impertinent opponent.

The Colorado papers are bragging over the wonderful restorative effects of their climate upon an Ohio lady who could not sweep her room at home, but shortly after her arrival in Colorado was able to chase her husband a mile with a pitchfork.

A young lady in Lancaster has the initials Y. M. C. A. engraved on the corner of her visiting cards, which she hauls to certain gentleman visitors. At first they suppose she belongs to the Young Men's Christian Association, but it is not long before they rightly construe the letters to mean "You May Come Again."

"Wife, wife, what has become of the grapes?" I suppose, my dear, the hens picked them off, was the reply. "Hens—hens! Some two-legged hens, I guess," said the husband, with some impetuosity; to which she calmly replied, "My dear, did you ever see any other kind?"

Two Titusville, P., lawyers entered into a solemn compact not to drink any intoxicating liquors for a year except when duck shooting, under forfeit of \$100. One of them quenches his thirst without losing the duces by keeping a duck in his barnyard to fire at when he is dry. The other has invested in one also.

City Directory.

Our readers will find it to their advantage to patronize the following firms.

Auctioneer.

JAMES BANKS, AUCTIONEER, AND APPRAISER. Sale-rooms, 45 Jarvis Street, corner of King Street East. Second-hand Furniture bought and sold.

Barristers, &c.

REEVE & PLATT, BARRISTERS, AT-TORNEYS, Solicitors, &c. Office—18 King St. East, Toronto. J. McPHERSON REEVE, SAMUEL PLATT.

LAUDER & PROCTOR, BARRISTERS, Attorneys, Solicitors in Chancery, &c. Office—Masonic Hall, 20 Toronto Street.

HARRY E. CASTON, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Solicitor in Chancery, Conveyancer, Notary Public, &c. Office—48 Adelaide Street, opposite the Court House, Toronto.

HENRY O'BRIEN, BARRISTER, Attorney and Solicitor, &c., Notary Public, &c. Office—68 Church Street.

BOULTON & GORDON, BARRISTERS, Solicitors, Notaries, etc., No. 7 Ontario Hall, corner Court and Church Streets, Toronto. D'ARCY BOULTON, Q.C. G. B. GORDON.

Dentists.

M. EDWARD SNIDER, SURGEON DENTIST, OFFICE AND RESIDENCE—84 Bay Street, a few doors below King Street, Toronto.

G. W. HALE, DENTIST, No. 6 TEMPERANCE STREET, first house off Yonge Street, north side.

D. R. J. BRANSTON WILMOTT, DENTIST, Graduate of the Philadelphia Dental College. Office—Corner of King and Church streets, Toronto.

F. G. CALLENDER, DENTIST, Toronto. Office—Corner of King and Jordan streets, Toronto.

W. C. ADAMS, DENTIST, 95 KING Street East, Toronto, has given attention to his profession in all its parts.

J. A. TROUTMAN, D.D.S., DENTIST. Office AND RESIDENCE—127 Church Street, Toronto, opposite Metropolitan Church. Makes the preservation of the natural teeth a speciality.

R. G. TROTTER, DENTIST 53 King Street East, Toronto, opposite Toronto Street. RESIDENCE—172 Jarvis Street.

Groceries.

CHARLES HUNTER, DEALER IN GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS, WINES AND LIQUORS, 68 Queen Street West, corner Torbay Street, Toronto, Ont.

Physicians.

N. AGNEW, M.D., (SUCCESSOR) to his brother, the late Dr. Agnew, corner of Bay and Richmond streets, Toronto.

Shoe Dealers.

S. McCABE, FASHIONABLE AND Cheap Boot and Shoe Emporium, 59 Queen Street West, sign of "THE BIG BLUE BOOT."

R. MERRYFIELD, BOOT AND SHOE MAKER, 190 Yonge Street. A large and well-assorted stock always on hand.

P. McGINNES, 129 YORK STREET.—All who wish to have good, neat, and comfortable BOOTS and SHOES, call at the WORKINGMEN'S SHOE DEPOT.

Tinware, &c.

J. & T. IREDALE, MANUFACTURERS of Tin, Sheet Iron and Copperware, dealers in Baths, Water Coolers, Refrigerators, &c., No. 57 Queen Street West, first door West of Bay Street, Toronto, Ont.

Groceries, Provisions, &c.

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WM. WRIGHT,

DEALER IN GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, WINES AND LIQUORS, FRUIT, OYSTERS, &c., &c. 277 Yonge Street, Toronto.

Queen City Grocery & Provision Store, 320 Queen Street West.

WM. F. ROBERTSON,

DEALER IN GROCERIES, WINES, LIQUORS, &c., in addition to his SUGARS, that have been before the public so long, has received his SUMMER LIQUORS:

Table listing various liquors and their prices, including Cook Port Wine, Old Port, Extra do., Unsuspected Old Port, Sherrys—Fine Old Sherry, Extra do., Splendid do., and Dawe's Montreal Stock Ale and Porter.

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OUR SPRING STOCK

Is now Complete in all the LATEST STYLES, From the VERY BEST TO THE LOWEST QUALITY.

We follow the good old motto—"Small Profits and Quick Returns." Call and see for yourselves. No trouble to show our Goods.

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QUEEN'S WHARF. COAL AND WOOD YARD.

On hand and for sale at lowest rates, a full and complete assortment of all descriptions of

COAL AND WOOD.

SCRANTON or PITSTON, all sizes, delivered at \$7 00 PER TON.

BEST HARD WOOD, BEECH AND MAPLE, uncut, delivered at

\$6 50 PER CORD.

BEST HARD WOOD, BEECH AND MAPLE, sawn and split, delivered at

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The public are invited to call and see my stock before buying in their winter supply.

P. BURNS.

Office on Yard, corner Bathurst and Front Streets. 77-76

COAL.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad and Coal Mining Company, have on hand and are constantly receiving their Celebrated Scranton and Pittston Coal, which will be sold at lowest cash price.

NO COAL STORED UNTIL PAID FOR.

Coal delivered in either Carts or Waggon to suit purchasers.

TERMS CASH.

BIG COAL HOUSE, OFFICE:

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WOOD YARD,

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Beech, Maple, Mixed & Pine Wood

Constantly on hand.

ALL KINDS OF CUT AND SPLIT WOOD IN STOCK

HARD AND SOFT COAL

Of every description promptly delivered, at LOWEST PRICES.

Note the Address,—

OPPOSITE BAY STREET FIRE HALL.

WM. BULMAN, PROPRIETOR.

EASTERN COAL HOUSE,

On Wharf, foot of Sherbourne street. Order Office, Corner Sherbourne and Queen Streets. On hand all kinds of

HARD & SOFT COAL,

FOR STEAM AND DOMESTIC USE,

Which we will sell at the lowest remunerative prices, and guarantee 2,000 lbs to the ton. Also,

BLOSSBURG AND LEHIGH COAL,

The very best imported. Retail and by the car load. WOOD, Cut and Split by Steam, always on hand. PINE WOOD, \$4 per cord for summer use.

Obtain our prices before ordering elsewhere.

MUTTON, HUTCHINSON & CO.

G. ELLIS, WHOLESALE dealer in HAIR and JUTE SWITCHES, Curis, Chignons, and Nets.

The imitation goods are very fine, and cannot be detected from hair. Just received a large assortment of Hair Nets

All orders left at King street must be called for at 170 Yonge street, four doors above Queen street, east side.

41-oh

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R. S. M. BOUCHETTE, Commissioner

26-ff

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191 Yonge Street,

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A Cheap Stock of Ready-Made Clothing on hand

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Importer of Watches, Clocks, and Fancy Goods, and Manufacturer of Gold and Silver Jewellery. Masonic emblems made to order.

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37-oh Spectacles to Suit every Sight.



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In sterling silver case and gold points, full jewelled, warranted for five years— together with a gold-plated Albert chain—which will be sent to any part of Canada on receipt of \$25, or C. O. D., per express.

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PROPRIETOR OF THE

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52-oh

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Cornices, Curtains, Window Blinds Poles and Fringes, &c., &c.

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All kinds of Furniture Repaired. 65-1e

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Having now been established in the manufacture of Musical Instruments for several years, we must acknowledge our appreciation of the kindness and justness of the people which has tended to prosper and increase our business and reputation far above our expectation.

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We claim especial attention to our Vox Celeste Organs, No. 27 and No. 34. The Vox Celeste Reeds were first introduced in Canada by us in 1869, in a 6 reed organ, which took the first prize at the Provincial Fair held that year in London. We have since applied it successfully to our single and double reed organs, making our "Celeste Organs" the most popular instrument now before the Canadian public.

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WILLIAMS, SLEETH & MACWILLAN

THE CAUSE OF THE FINANCIAL CRISIS.

A writer in the Chicago *Workingman's Advocate* advances the following opinions regarding the causes of that led to the financial crisis in the United States: The present financial catastrophe, with its vast losses to the working class, shows conclusively one of two things. It is either the result of a conspiracy among the monied classes to break down all the bulwarks of labor, and reduce it to abject submission, or else it exhibits the utter incompetency of the monied and employing classes to properly control the producing and distributing agencies of society. There is no escape from one or the other of these conclusions, and whichever surmise be true, it furnishes an unanswerable argument for the entire reconstruction of society on a basis that will absolutely secure to labor abundant work and adequate wages under all possible contingencies. Our present divisions of society into capitalists and workers, never have done and never can do this. On the contrary, they drown four-fifths of the community to hopeless toils and privations for the benefit of the other fifth.

There have been at times mutterings and threats on the part of capital against labor. The desultory fights of capital with labor were expensive and unsatisfactory, and were coming to be still more so by the union of one trade with another, whereby aid was rendered to labor in its conflicts. The monied power has at length become so consolidated through its banks, railroad, and manufacturing corporations, and is so potent in Congress and State legislatures that labor is completely at its mercy. Capital has power to precipitate a financial crisis and reduce labor to submission at any time, despite of all its labor and trades unions. Labor at this moment is demoralized everywhere, and is trembling for the fate of wife and children.

Was there ever such a thing known as that capital, when powerful, refused to take advantage of its power? Was a financial crisis like the present, that would reduce values, break up trades unions, and spread confusion and misery among the masses in all directions, an achievement above the heartlessness and calculating rascality of Wall street? Was it not just like them to do it, if they had the power? And who can doubt that our combined money power can do just as they please, and exercise a despotism not possessed by any crowned head in Europe.

The movement on its face bears marks of design. No reason can be given for the crisis, nor any necessity shown. The thing has been so skillfully managed that capital has overwhelmed and conquered labor, without coming visibly in conflict with it. The monied power has conquered labor without the expense of a battle. Labor has been beaten in detail, and mass, without seeing its adversary or having a chance to grapple with it!

If, on the other hand, the crisis was the result of accident, or uncontrollable causes, it exhibits a condition of insecurity for labor and the vital interests of society at large that cannot be much longer tolerated. How can we think with patience that the very sustenance of millions of men, women and children is imperiled through the incompetency or rascality of millionaires and bankers? that the welfare of the masses is dependent on contingencies that they have no more control over than so many cattle in a barn-yard? that the enjoyments of to-day may be exchanged for less of work and starvation to-morrow?

It is absolutely requisite that labor shall control its own destinies in the matter of employment and wages. No power, authority or interest must stand between labor and its work and wages. It must have absolute power at all times to say how long shall be a day's work and how much its wages. It must not be subject to financial accidents and miscalculations, nor be the slave of hostile interests. Do our present social divisions into capitalists and workers give labor any security? Most certainly they do not. A social reorganization

that will unite capital and labor together, independent of the control of outside classes and interests, is an imperative necessity.

If labor and trades unions have failed in this crisis to do what was expected of them, they must not on this account be given up, but their aims and ends enlarged. They form the back-bone of any future organization of labor, social or political. They unite men in bonds of interest and sympathy stronger than can exist in any mere political party. Under present contingencies the enemy they fought against has been too powerful for them. They came into existence on the basis that there was a capital class and a labor class, and that labor must protect its own interests. Such a class being not only unnecessary, but fatal to labor, the duties of the unions now is the obliteration of these distinctions and the consolidation of labor and capital, through industrial reorganization. The true conflict of labor has not yet commenced. We must now work for control of federal and state governments through an industrial party. The old political parties have outlived their usefulness.

So far is the condition of labor from being hopeless that it is only just beginning to realize where it stands and what it needs. Control of government will give it abundant capital to set itself to work, and render it independent of crashes and hard times in the future.

A PRACTICAL ASPECT OF THE LABOR QUESTION.

From an article on this subject recently published in the *Christian Union* we take the following extract. It is here presented in its practical bearing on our every-day life:

"The only salvation for men, in their relations with one another, lies in the precept of Jesus Christ, 'Do unto others as ye would that others should do unto you.'

"No man has a right, in dealing with another man, to neglect that other's interests. The laws of political economy, as they are called, cannot take precedence of the laws of Jesus Christ. Have I not a right to buy for what the seller is willing to take? Not if you give less than the article is worth, taking advantage of his necessities. When I pay my clerks or factory hands for their work, does not that end my obligation to them? No. They are your fellow-beings as well as your workmen. You owe them kindness; you owe them thought and care for their welfare; you owe it to put yourself in their place, and think how you would like to be treated. The tie between you is far more than a money contract can cover. You are children of the same heavenly Father. You are brothers. If, day after day, and year after year, you live beside them, and no constant stream of brotherly helpfulness and sympathy passes from your life into theirs, you are false to the trust God has given you.

"And just as much is due on the other side. The employee—the clerk, factory-hand, mechanic, servant—owes to his employer a large and generous service. He should make the employer's interest his own. He should work just as hard and as faithfully as if the business were his own. Does any one reply, that toward a hard and selfish employer no such hearty service is due? Ah, Paul hit that matter exactly. Do your work, he says, heartily, 'as to the Lord!' That is it. Over all good work, be it preaching or farming, sowing or digging—all that contributes to the store of human wealth and happiness—the Lord is the great Master. Work as for Him.

"There is a law of fidelity to work for its own sake. There is a habit of doing thoroughly, conscientiously, well, whatever one has to do, that is better than gold to his possessor. Then there is a law of honor, of honesty made fine and sensitive, in the dealings of man with man. And highest of all is Christ's great law of love. Act toward your comrade, your employer, your subordinate, in the thought of his interest and happiness; in the feeling that he is every way of just as much account as you; and that you want him to do well just as much as to do well yourself.

THE IMPRISONED CARPENTERS.

The Beehive of the 13th ult., says:—On Wednesday night a meeting of carpenters and joiners was held at the Sussex Hotel, Bourville street, for the purpose of welcoming Pile and Tamblin on their release from prison, after undergoing six months' imprisonment for an assault on a fellow-workmen in the employ of Messrs. Jackson and Shaw. The chair was taken by Mr. James Beal, who reviewed the circumstances of the prosecution.

Mr. Sinclair, in a suitable speech, moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting views with deep feelings of indignation the result of the partial trial and unjust sentence passed upon Messrs. Tamblin and Pile for an alleged conspiracy and trade outrage, of which their entire innocence could be substantiated; and, further, we tender to the two men our hearty sympathy and cordial welcome on their release from the trying ordeal through which they have passed.

Mr. C. Matkin seconded the motion, and said that it was a patent fact that the men were imprisoned not for conspiracy against Coffin, but for the part they had taken in the recent movement in the building trade. In fact they were the victims of the Master Builders' Association.

Mr. Mottershead supported the resolution, and reviewed the the legislation in regard to trades unions for the past 100 years, and stated that workmen will never be completely free until the law of conspiracy and contract were absolutely swept away.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and suitably responded to by Messrs. Tamblin and Pile, who expressed their thanks for all that had been done for them and their families during their imprisonment.

Miscellaneous.

IN ORDER TO SUPPLY OUR MANY Customers in the Eastern part of the city with the **BEST AND CHEAPEST FUEL,**

We have purchased from Messrs. Helliwell & Sinclair the business lately carried on by them on the corner of QUEEN and BRIGIT STREETS, where we shall endeavor to maintain the reputation of the

VICTORIA WOOD YARD

As the Best and Cheapest Coal and Wood Depot in the City. Cut Pine and Hardwood always on hand. All kinds Hard and Soft Coal, dry and under cover, from snow and ice.

J. & A. MCINTYRE, Corner Queen and Brigit Streets, and 23 and 25 Victoria Street.

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The undersigned respectfully informs his friends that he has opened

The Union Boot and Shoe Store,

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Best material and has fixed the prices at LOWEST LIVING PROFIT.

Gentlemen's Boots made to order. An experienced manager in attendance. No penitentiary work. All home manufacture—the work of good Union men.

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No. 107 KING STREET WEST,

Is now prepared to supply

Foster's Celebrated New York Oysters

BY THE QUART OR GALLON.

An elegant Oyster Parlor has been fitted up to suit the most fastidious taste, where Oysters will be served up in every style

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WE ARE SELLING

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Furniture Bought, Sold, or Exchanged.

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Tenders marked "Tenders for Harbor and Branch Line," will be received at the Commissioners' Office, Ottawa, up to six o'clock, p.m., of the 20th day of December next.

A. WALSH,

ED. B. CHANDLER,

C. J. BRYDGES,

A. W. McLELLAN,

Commissioners

Commissioners' Office,

Ottawa, October 17, 1873.

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