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HISTORY
OF THE
EIGHT HOURS'
Movement,

BY
W. E. MURPHY.



SPECTATOR PUBLISHING COMPANY LIMITED,
270 POST OFFICE PLACE.

1896.

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8 HOURS RECREATION
8 HOURS REST

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VICTORIA AUSTRALIA. 1856.

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Eucalyptus Oil

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Chest Complaints,
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AND ALL

Painful Affections.



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Richmond, Melbourne.

Ode to Liberty.



As after days of weather black with low'ring cloud,
Whose sullen gloom is only broke by thunder loud,
The sun shines forth with radiance bright,
Dispelling clouds and shedding light
On lowly worm and lordly man,
Part all of Nature's God-like plan —

So after years of Bigot's zeal and Tyrant's power,
Of Ignorance and Superstition's cursed dower,
Of protests vainly made by Mind in darkest hour
Thou shinest—Heavenborn Liberty!

With noblest rays of Charity,
That gently soothe Adversity,
That pay the due to Honesty
That bind the bonds of Unity,
Making all men manly, free,
In the future yet to be.

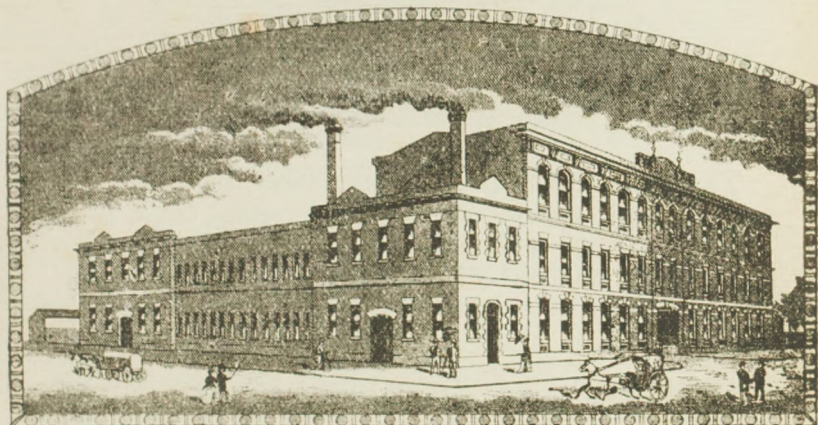
We, sons of Australasia's soil,
Her sons of labour and of toil,
Hail thee with Freeman's true Australian cheer,
On this our Emblem Day of all the year.

11.4.11. gph. Lower

“ It is characteristic of much of the fugitive literature of our day, that it emanates from pens specially associated with the inner life of the various political and social movements demanding attention. Carlyle, in one of his essays, declared that it was impossible for anyone to produce a serviceable biography, unless keenly sympathising with the aims and struggles of the hero of the narrative; and in like manner it may be said that a writer who takes part in the work of an organisation is, if otherwise qualified, best fitted to interest the public in the story of its development.”—*The Age*, 25th October, 1887.

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The following is a list of some of the principal places where these Paints have been used with satisfaction:—Tar Pavement in front of Maribyrrnong Stand, Flemington Racecourse; Asphalt Flooring, Nicholson-street Entrance, Exhibition Building; Aquarium and Seals Basking Ground, where it is subject to constant wet and exposure; Bay Excursion Company's Steamer "Ozone"; Benevolent Asylum; Public Works Department; Railway Department; Harbour Trust Orderly Rooms, Flinders-street; G.P.O. Urinals; Floor of Albion Hotel, Bourke-street, also on the cement and stone, same place.

W. LUPLAU, Manager,
102 PARK ST., SOUTH YARRA.

TESTIMONIALS.

Amongst the numerous testimonials received are the following:—

[COPY.]

H. BYRON MOORE & MACLEOD, FINANCIAL AND GENERAL AGENTS,
THE EXCHANGE, MELBOURNE, 13/12/88.

THE AUSTRALASIAN OIL AND PAINT CO.

Messrs. Luplau & Son painted a portion of our asphalt in front of the tea and coffee bar at Flemington before last Cup Meeting. It stood the heavy traffic of the meeting without any appreciable injury. It takes off the objectionable appearance of the black asphalt, looks as well as tiles, and considerably reduces the temperature.

H. BYRON MOORE.

(This has stood very well up to this date.—H. BYRON MOORE, December 19th, 1895)

STEAMER "OZONE," June 3rd, 1896.

WM. LUPLAU, ESQ, Manager Australasian Oil and Paint Co.

SIR,—I have used a large quantity of Carbo Oil, Carbo Paint, and Carbolic Paint during the last three years, on board of the s.s. "Ozone," and I am in a position to state that this material has given complete satisfaction. It is specially suitable as a preservative of the internal and exposed surfaces of iron ships, as it neither cracks, blisters, nor peels off, as other paints do. One very severe test inside the paddle boxes proved a great success. I consider the above-mentioned Oil and Paint a most valuable product.

Yours faithfully,

Confirmed,
WM. R. EVANS, Manager,
Bay Excursion Company.

A. E. BOOTH,
Chief Officer.

P.S. "LONSDALE,"

RIVER YARRA, MELBOURNE, 10th June, 1896.

This is to certify that I have used the Australasian Oil and Paint Company's "Carbo" Oil and Carbolic Paint on board the above-named steamer for a period of about three years, and I can confidently recommend it as a good preventative of rust. Some of the ironwork in the holds, and the side of the hull, which received three coats of paint two years ago, is still in a splendid state of preservation, and looks more like enamel than the ordinary paint. I have also used the same material for painting the boilers and machinery with great success.

ERNEST A. EDENS

Officer in Charge P.S. "Lonsdale."

To WM. LUPLAU, ESQ., Manager.

JONES' MEMORY CULTURE.

FURTHER ENDORSEMENTS.

MR. FRANK GLADISH, of Melbourne University, writes June 29th, 1896 :—

"I am desirous to add my testimony to the value of your system of 'Memory-Culture,' and in doing so may state that I HAVE PAID A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF ATTENTION TO THE SYSTEM, finding it of great value and utility in the affairs of every-day life and business, as well as to special studies. I will at any time answer inquiries relating to the system."

MR. T. R. TRELOAR, Chemist, Sturt Street, Ballarat, says

"I have been astonished and gratified beyond expression, by the ease, rapidity, and skill with which you have unmasked to me powers of Memory in my own mind, beyond even the most sanguine hopes that I have formed, after reading your valuable brochures on 'Memory Culture.' Accept my heartiest thanks for the valuable instruction you have given me in your system. I trust the time is not far distant when every boy and girl in the land will be instructed in 'Thought Memory Culture,' and to that end the Government ought to make its acquirement by State School Teachers a *sine qua non* for future advancement. My experiences on the Stage and elsewhere entitle me to speak with some authority on the matter, and I hail your capacity as a teacher, and the improved methods of procedure of which you are master, with well-deserved enthusiasm. It will be a pleasure to answer any enquiries, and you may make any use you see fit of this document."

MR. J. A. STEVENSON, of Salisbury Crescent, N. Fitzroy, writes :—

"I thank you sincerely for the benefits derived from you in improving my memory."

MR. W. T. CARTER, Electrician, of Ballarat, writes :—

"I have naturally a good memory, and have not sought help from cumbersome Mnemonics; but latterly have found increasing difficulty in committing to memory from greater strain on mental powers. In seeking help from your system of 'Memory Culture,' I am certainly surprised by the assistance it is giving me. It is a thoroughly thought out method, on natural lines of mental force. Instead of setting up arbitrary and unrelated associations, it stimulates the mind to perceive natural and philosophical relations of words and things, and shows a way by which memory grows and strengthens with mental development, instead of being dwarfed by that extension. I will recommend your system everywhere, being sure that the small fees charged by you must be money well spent by any persons desirous of mental advancement."

PROF. C. FRUSHER HOWARD, author of "The Art of Reckoning," says :—

"I recognise the universal need for Memory Culture, and your phenomenal capacity to teach. . . . I can and will mention, whenever occasion offers, the nature and value of your work."

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Ladies and Gentlemen suffering from defective memories or desirous to improve good memories, should send Twenty-five Shillings (and postage, Two Shillings) by Post Office Order, or Postal Note, payable to MR. C. E. JONES, and they will receive, by return of post, HIS CLASS BOOK, and full instructions for MEMORY CULTURE, which may equip them for any career in life provided they will persistently obey directions.

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PREFACE.

The compiler of this volume, in order to save any possible chance of misapprehension among his readers, desires to state that the object of his book is solely and wholly to give for the first time—so far as he knows—a consecutive narrative not only of the *history of the Eight Hours' Movement*, but also its *establishment as a system*.

The credit of the latter belongs, without doubt, to Australia; forgetfulness or ignorance of which point has rendered previous publications on the subject unreliable as a true and faithful record.

The compiler has been fortunate enough, through an experience of some thirty years, to have known many of the leaders and establishers of probably the greatest movement of the century, as regards the social amelioration of the working classes, and it is his present hope that the publication of this narrative will act as a stimulus to the daily increasing desire now being expressed all over the world, to extend the system of abridged hours of labour in order to keep pace with the rapidly growing system of production by machinery, &c., which unfortunately too frequently produces over-production, unholy competition, gluts in markets, stagnation and its baneful result—misery to thousands who are solely dependent on wages for a livelihood.

Finally, the compiler wishes to assert emphatically that this work is not in any way a history of Trades Unionism, nor does it affect to deal with conflicts between Capital and Labour.

In this connection it may safely be affirmed that there are thousands of the working classes who are now reaping the blissful advantages of the Eight Hours' system who have never been, and who may never be, connected with labour organisations.

The Old White Horse CELLAR WHISKY.



THE OLD WHITE HORSE CELLAR WHISKY

Is not one of those Whiskies that when a man drinks it he jumps up and says, "I can lick any son of a gun in this here house."

No, Sirree! he lifts his glass gently, and with a smile says to his mate, "I looks towards you, pardner."

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SOLE AGENTS.

DEDICATION.



TO THE PIONEERS OF THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have been requested by the Eight Hours' Anniversary Committee of 1896 to dedicate this little work to the Pioneers of the Eight Hours' System.

I do so with pleasure and with pride. No other satisfaction, permanent or fleeting, which its publication may afford myself can compare with the honour which I feel has been conferred on me by that request, and the acceptance by you of my humble efforts to comply with the desire of your worthy successors. To you, gentlemen, it must be obvious that the haze which a lapse of forty years has shed around the details of your noble achievement, almost chills the most sanguine desires to chronicle more than a moiety of the justice which you might expect should be yours on this world-wide question.

It has been reserved, however, for its representatives of 1896 to be in a great measure the herald of your honoured names and fame in many lands. For this posterity will thank them, while all good men of the future, whether employers or workmen, will feel that history has not produced a more exalted ideal for emulation than those solemn engagements brought about in 1856, by the operations of peace and wisdom, and ratified by the seal of success through forty years to-day. I am well aware that in the long head roll of the pioneers there are many whose names should be recorded, but my limits preclude for the present a more extended appreciation of the men who have assisted to bestow so great a blessing on humanity.

Permit me, Gentlemen, to remain, with great respect,

Your faithful servant,

W. E. MURPHY.

MELBOURNE, 21ST April, 1896.

Ode to the Eight Hours' Pioneers.

APRIL 21ST, 1896.

This day, just forty years ago,
The well-fought fight was won
By true hearts set in steel-wrought frames,
Through whom bright Freedom shone.

All honour to their glorious names,
Which ne'er shall be forgot
While life blood thrills through grateful hearts
Enjoying their favoured lot.

In this Victoria, our dear land,
The first that dared be free,
To show the world what freedom meant
In new lands 'cross the sea.

And honour too to those who've held,
Through all the years since then,
Steadfastly to the Cause they won,
And proved themselves true men.

A tear for those who've passed away
From out this faithful band;
Their fight being fought, they now take rest
In God's own peaceful land.

HAMILTON MACKINNON.



THE DESIGN ACCEPTED BY THE PIONEERS FOR THE EIGHT HOURS' MEMORIAL. PERCIVAL BALL, SCULPTOR.

To Show the Confidence

WE PLACE IN OUR

To ensure this Guarantee, you must see that they bear the following TRADE MARK:

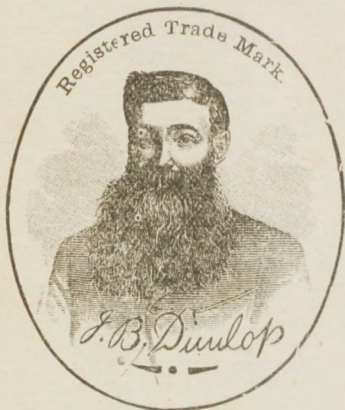
1896

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FABRIC-

LINED

TYRE



We Guarantee Them for 12 Months.

IF YOU ARE IN DOUBT

Of the genuineness of your Tyre, if forwarded to us we shall be glad to report on same.

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Dunlop-Welch Pneumatic Tyre.

The Dunlop Pneumatic Tyre Co.,

27-29 TATTERSALL'S LANE, MELBOURNE.

W. J. PROCTOR, MANAGER.

NAMES AND OCCUPATIONS

OF THE

Officers and Members of the 40th Anniversary Committee

OF THE

EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM OF VICTORIA.

JOHN HYMAN (bootmaker), President. Born in London, 1857; arrived in Victoria, 1882. Mr. Hyman has filled many responsible positions in connection with labour movements. He is possessed of the excellent quality of method in administration, while he is always courteous and agreeable, and being gifted with an easy fluency of speech the popularity he has won is well deserved.

SAMUEL HARRISON (cutter), Treasurer, is a native of Baltimore, U.S.A., where he first saw the light in 1856, and arrived in Melbourne ten years later. As Treasurer, Mr. Harrison has secured the confidence of the Eight Hours' bodies, by a close and unostentatious discharge of the onerous duties of his office.

CHARLES HARRIS (saddler), Secretary, and former Treasurer of the Eight Hours' Anniversary Committee, is the only Australian native among the principal officers. Born in South Australia in the year 1857, he in 1882 exchanged the scenes of his youth for the Queen City of the South, on the banks of the Yarra Yarra. The huge proportions which the Eight Hours' *fete* has of late years obtained, invests the duties of Secretary with grave responsibilities. It is not to indulge in hyperbole to say that there are times when he must be equal to the duties of all officers, and the whole committee, of whom he is necessarily the chief representative. To be a success in this office a man must be possessed of application, firmness, tact, and judgment—such a man is Charles Harris.

HENRY BELFRAGE (mariner), Vice President, member of the Marine Board of Victoria. Born, 1841, at Edinburgh. Indentured to the sea at South Shields, England. Arrived in Victoria from New York, 1864. Engaged in the coastal trade until 1867, when he sailed for the west coast of New Zealand on the breaking out of the gold rush. Remained there four years, and returned to Melbourne, but soon after left for the celebrated Gulgong and Parkes gold fields, New South Wales, from whence he returned in 1876 to this city, rejoining the coastal trade for a few years, until his official connection with the Seamen's Union caused him to settle on shore.

Ode to the Waves.

DEDICATED TO HENRY BELFRAGE.

I.

The blue sea waves have been my home
For five and fifty years.
I loved their calm, and I loved their foam,
These five and fifty years.
In the fo'cs'le snug, when the rum sped round,
Mid ditties, and yarns, and cheers,
I toasted the waves on the "Outward Bound,"
Listless of the rolling years.

II.

I watched them sport in the moonlight sheen,
As phantoms of night appears,
And the weird winds sang to the mystic scene,
Songs of the waning years.
And when they roared, as I heard them roar,
Men quailed, and maids shed tears;
But I laughed at their fright, as sea dogs of yore,
Dogs, of five and fifty years.

III.

Yet must I leave the waves for a bleak lee shore,
After five and fifty years,
For the sea-dog's s'leep, where I'll never more
Count five and fifty years?
When life's *Captain* above, who rules the waves,
The flag of Doom doth rear,
And call sea-dogs brave from nameless graves
To an everlasting year.



LIST OF DELEGATES.

SOCIETIES.	DELEGATES.
Aerated Waters <i>Employes</i> ...	Charles Johnson
Bakers, Operative ...	John Garrow
" " 	George J. Wright
Brewers' <i>Employes</i> ..	George C. Davidson
Butchers, Journeymen ...	Charles H. Anderson
" " 	Robert Thorn
Bookbinders ...	Frederick G. Barnett
" " 	Alfred Hough
Bootmakers, Operative ...	John W. Billson
" " 	John Hyman
" " 	Angus F. M'Lachlan
" " 	Charles Staggles
Bootmakers, Bespoke ...	Patrick J. M'Namara
Boilermakers ...	James Gibson
" " 	Malcolm Kennedy
Bricklayers, Melbourne ...	Frederick A. Garland
" " 	Alfred H. Owers
Bricklayers, Richmond ...	George Sindrey
Coopers ...	Thomas Smith
Confectioners ...	Thomas Geddes
Coachbuilders, Amalgamated... ..	Thomas Coate
Cutters and Trimmers ...	Samuel Harrison
Cigarmakers ...	Patrick Power
Carpenters, Progressive ...	James Robb
Carpenters, Amalgamated—	
No. 1, Melbourne ...	William McPherson
Richmond ...	George Wood

SOCIETIES.

DELEGATES.

Carpenters—continued.

No. 3 ... ..	...	James Burn
Williamstown ... ..	...	John McAuslan
North Melbourne ... ..	...	James C. Morrison
South Melbourne ... ..	...	Matthew T. Meadows
Engineers, Amalgamated—		
Melbourne ... ..	...	John Gifford
„ ... ..	...	Robert L. McMillan
„ ... ..	...	Henry Warner
Melbourne, South ... ..	...	John Smith
„ „ ... ..	...	James Dunlop
„ „ No. 2 ... ..	...	John Grainger
„ „ ... ..	...	Alexander C. Scott
„ „ ... ..	...	William Taylor
Williamstown ... ..	...	W. Campbell
Footscray ... ..	...	Frank Watkin
Enginedrivers, Certificated	...	A. J. Ball
„ „	...	Walter F. F. Lakeman
Felt Hatters ... ..	...	Michael Devereux
„ ... ..	...	George Pickford
„ ... ..	...	Frank G. Tudor
Furniture Trades ... ..	...	Henry A. Harwood
Glass Bottle Makers ... ..	...	Cornelius Bishop
Ironmoulders ... ..	...	James Armstrong
Ironworkers' Assistants ... ..	...	Francis J. Harrison
„ „	...	Thomas Price
Lithographers ... ..	...	Arthur T. Dickason
Masons ... ..	...	William Brunson
„ ... ..	...	James Robinson
Millers, Amalgamated ... ..	...	Samuel Callaghan
„ „ ... ..	...	Alfred Gilbert

SOCIETIES.	DELEGATES.
Plumbers and Gasfitters ...	James Aitken
Painters	Charles Dean
„	Thomas Morgan
Railway Workshops' Union ...	William Sinclair
„ „ „ ...	James Thomas
Saddlers	Chas. Harris
Seamen	Henry Belfrage
„	Thomas Lyford
Shipwrights	James E. Hennesey
Stevedores.	James Feely
„	Joseph Morris
Australian Workers' Union—	
Creswick	George A. Andrew
„	William Taylor
„	Frederic John Atchison
Casterton	William Colenso
Tanners and Curriers ...	John Alloway
Tinsmiths	John De Gruchy
„	John Thewlis
Tobacconists	Thomas B. Drew
„	Joshua Wheller
Timber Yard <i>Employes</i> ...	John Saxe
Typographical	James C. Bolger
„	Wm. Bendall
„	Edward Findley
„	Peter Nihill
Wharf Labourers	Thomas Wray



EIGHT HOURS'
NATIONAL MONUMENT.

*New Treasury Hotel,
Spring Street, Melbourne,
20th February, 1896.*

To

Mr. W. E. MURPHY.

Dear Sir,

In terms of a resolution of the 40th Anniversary Committee of the Eight Hours' System, dedicating "THE HISTORY OF THE EIGHT HOURS' MOVEMENT," about to issue from your pen, to the Pioneers of the System, we have much pleasure in accepting the honour thus conferred, and in certifying to our confidence in your ability to do full justice to the important question.

Yours faithfully,

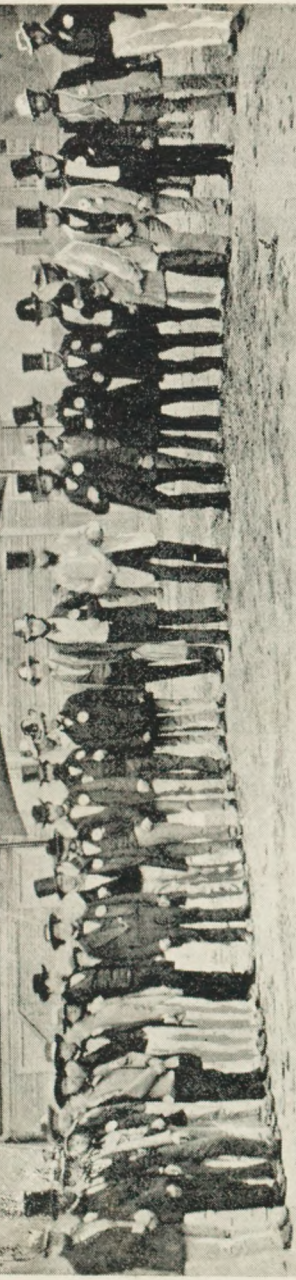
THOS. GAMON, *President,*

THOMAS SMITH, *Treasurer,*

GEORGE LAUNDER, *Secretary,*

} *Eight
Hours'
Pioneers
Association.*

8 HOURS LABOUR
8 HOURS RECREATION
8 HOURS REST



FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY C. NETTLETON, CARLTON.]

THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF EIGHT HOURS' DAY, 1858: COMMITTEE AND PRESIDENT.

Reading from left to right, the first figure is R. Bear; 3rd, T. Lalor; 9th, V. Marshall; 14th, J. Hughes; 17th, J. Baker; 18th, G. Ravenscroft, Secretary; 19th, R. Miller, president; 20th, J. O'Brien; 22nd, T. W. Vine; 23rd, F. Mannall; 28th, J. Campbell.



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Ladies' "Glacie Calf" Button Boots, 6/9.

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Ladies' White Canvas One-button Shoes, 3/6.

Ladies' Glace Sedan Bals., 6/11.

Glace Sedan Button Boots, 7/11.

Ladies' Superior Glace Kid Bals., 8/6, 9/6, and 10/6.

Button, ditto.

*Children's Boots and Shoes in Great Variety,
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Child's Strong Bals., 4 to 6, 1/6; 7 to 9, 1/11; 10 to 13, 2/9; 1 and 2, 3/6.

Infants' Shoes from 1/- per pair.

Gent's Dress Balmorals, 4/6, 5/11 and 6/11.

Gent's "Sedan Calf" Bals., 6/11; wide and narrow toes.

Gent's Tan Bals., 6/11, 8/6, 9/6, 10/6, 12/6, and 14/6.

Gent's Tan "Sedan Calf" Bals., 8/6; marvellous boot.

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AND

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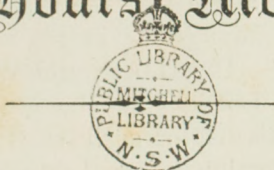
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HISTORY

OF THE

Eight Hours' Movement.



CHAPTER I.—INTRODUCTION.

The Royal Baker and the Eight Hours—The System in the 15th Century—The “Black Death”—Dreams of Eight Hours by British Workmen—The late Thos. Brassey and the Nine Hours’ Movement—The Chartists—Presbyterian Projectors—Pioneers sail in the ships *John Wickliffe* and *Phillip Laing*.

TRADITION, in these matter-of-fact days, frequently begets scepticism, and although an ancient philosopher of the Greeks has said that “incredulity is the soul of all wisdom,” it would nevertheless, in the compilation of historical events, be obviously imprudent to reject testimony which, in the natural order of things, is quite consistent with surrounding facts, and yet cannot be proved by documentary evidence.

Patriotic Englishmen are naturally proud of the celebrated Saxon monarch—the only one of our kings who has borne the surname of “Great;” yet much of the story of Alfred’s achievements rests upon no better foundation than the acceptance of traditional elements deduced from an estimate of his character and environments. It is not, therefore, much subject for wonder that a person standing amongst the enormous crowds that line the streets of an Australian city on an Eight Hours’ Celebration Day, will hear some pedantic individual gravely affirm that the system which called forth the demonstration was “in vogue in the time of Alfred the Great.” It has been sufficiently established that Alfred rebuilt London, and he introduced foreign mechanics and artisans for such work; that, in the construction of several mansions, he copied examples of the improved architecture which he observed while on his travels through the Continent of Europe; and that he was scrupulously exact, and even generous, in the payment of his workmen. It is further beyond question that Alfred’s code of laws was a merciful and just innovation, superseding the tyrannical enactments of the heptarchy. Slaves were declared to be free after six years’ service, and stringent measures were observed for the prevention of Sunday working. Slaves were, before this, designated *theow*, *thrael*, *esne*, and *men*—bless the mark—who were liable to be whipt, branded, and worked in yokes as were horses and oxen, until Alfred’s code recognised the first principles of humanity, and heralded the dawn of a new and a better life.

It is inconceivable, however, that in an epoch when three-fourths of the people were in a semi-barbaric state,

and liable to be bought and sold as mere chattels, with their wives and families, along with the land of which they were appurtenances, and ruled over by a monarch who, although endowed with great natural wisdom, was destitute of the first elements of book-learning until he attained maturity, that such a reform as the adoption of an eight hours' working day could be other than a dream. Alfred's visit to Rome in the earlier years of his life must have imbued him with a desire for a knowledge of the liberal arts which he subsequently practised with a view to the improvement of his untutored subjects; but it must be obvious that forced labour was almost as common in Rome in the days of Alfred as it was at the building of Solomon's temple, and could not have impressed him in favour of the civilising influences of reasonable hours of labour to the proletariat of his time.

While the Saxon monarch was alternating his studies in the pursuit of the Danes and technological skill, it is related that he obtained one of his first lessons in the latter from the wife of a cowherd dwelling on the morasses of Athelney, in Somersetshire. Alfred (so tradition affirms), while resting *incognito* at the humble cot of the cowherd, was entrusted by the good woman to watch carefully some loaves which were being baked for the family meal; but through inadvertence and being too busily engrossed with his bows and arrows, he permitted the cakes to burn, and received a sound "box o' the ear" from the herdsman's wife, who rushed forward exclaiming—

"Ca'en thee mind the ke-aks, man, and doossen zee 'em burn?"

I'm boun' thee's eat 'em vast enough, or zoon as 'tiz the turn."

Making all allowances for these literary pleasantries, which act as seasoning to the drier measures of which

our early history is in general composed, we can still find in the life of Alfred warrant for the suggestion that the more enlightened policy which prevailed under the *gild-scipe*, and approved by him, is consistent with the theory that an abridgment of the hours of labour which prevailed under the Anglo-Saxons was in Alfred's reign carried out.

To what extent that abridgment reached we have no means of elucidating, further than by reference to one of the early guild statutes, which prescribes that "no one shall work longer than from the beginning of the day to curfew, nor at night by candle light." The mention of candle light in this statute may inferentially account for its origin as having taken place during Alfred's reign, through the circumstance related by Asser, the celebrated historian, and contemporary of the monarch, who says, *"He kept in his chapel a wax taper continually burning before the relics of the saints which was divided into equal portions of *eight hours each*. . . . He also appointed a servant, whose duty it was, as each of these portions was consumed and finished, in a loud voice to warn the king of the portion about to succeed, a wax taper being thus consumed each day." The reference, therefore, would appear to point to a religious rather than a social origin, and its application to the working hours of the labouring classes is not even suggested by such writers as Dr. Pauli, Hughes, Aubrey, nor Asser, who would undoubtedly have left some record of such an important regulation if it existed, either by guild statute or the exercise of royal favour.

Dr. Brentano and others have traced the birth of the guilds to the Anglo-Saxons long before Alfred's time,

*Aubrey's *History of England*, Vol. I, (p. 73.)

although they were probably founded by the German tribes on the Continent before any of our records showed their existence in Britain; but beyond the bare fact that the guilds had the power of regulating, to some extent, both the wage rate and the hours of working, no evidence exists either before or during the reign of Alfred the Great of an established Eight Hours' Day, and the continued repetition of the fallacy is not a little repugnant to common sense.

Mr. George Howell, in his **Conflicts of Capital and Labour*," certainly supports the tradition, and relates how "there is a constant yearning amongst working men for an Eight Hours' Day," and that at their social and convivial gatherings one toast "at all times is enthusiastically responded to," namely—

"Eight hours to work, eight hours to play,
Eight hours to sleep, eight 'bob' a day."

The couplet, however, is not of Australian origin, as suggested by Messrs. Webb and Cox, the authors of †*The Eight Hours' Day*." Indeed, throughout all the agitation in Australasia for the acquisition of the Eight Hours' limit, workmen in these colonies would not have considered it matter for glorification to sing aloud for a reduced wage, which eight shillings a day would assuredly mean to them; as soon would we expect to hear British workmen feel pride in the refrain—

"Over the hills to the poorhouse,
We'll wander alone there — and die."

Equally difficult will it be to prove beyond the realms of fancy, the existence of the boon in mediæval times. The

**The Conflicts of Capital and Labour*, by George Howell, M.P. (p. 302, 1878 edition).

†*The Eight Hours' Day*, by Sydney Webb, LL.B., and Harold Cox, B.A. (p. 14).

plague, or "Black Death" of 1349, swept away 50,000 of the population of Great Britain, and completely prostrated the remainder in such frightful misery that it is probable the *villians* or handicraftsmen who survived were enabled to dictate their own terms and conditions of labour for some time subsequent to the disaster.

It would certainly be less surprising to an Australian casuist if he discovered some expounder of moral deductions drawn from the chronicles of that period, to insist that an inaugural procession of the Eight Hours' System paraded the streets of London in 1349, than the re-iteration of the Alfredian theory, or the more specious one evolved in 1878 concerning the golden age, and spoken of by the late Professor J. E. Thorold Rogers* in his "*Work and Wages*" in the following emphatic manner:—"The artisan who is demanding at this time an Eight Hours' Day in the building trade is simply striving to recover what his ancestor worked by four or five centuries ago."

How far even this hypothetical statement has gained credence in England may be gauged by some later writers on the question. Robertson says,† "Now, it is not in any way conclusive as to the present day problem whether or not the workers of the 14th and 15th centuries had or had not during these centuries an ordinary Eight Hours' Day; and it would be somewhat comforting to believe they had; but on the simple question of fact it is not easy to come to Rogers' conclusion." Nor are Webb and Cox on much firmer ground in dealing with the learned professor's opinions; they say "Those who have any experience of the length of time that traditions

* *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, by J. E. Thorold Rogers.

† *Eight Hours' Question*. Robertson (p. 12).

linger among an illiterate class will not think it altogether fanciful to suppose that the modern ideal of an Eight Hours' Day is the half-forgotten survival of a long-cherished memory of a former shorter day."

The genesis of Rogers' assumption of the existence of an Eight-Hours' Day, is in the improved condition of the people during the fifteenth century, rendering it probable that the guilds obtained immunities by charter, which, on the introduction of the Flemings and other foreign workmen from the continent, laid the successful foundation of our manufacturing arts.

All historians agree on this; but, if a reduction in the hours of labour took place at that period, as Rogers asserts, "It is plain that the day was one of Eight Hours,"* then indeed we are forced to the conclusion that slavery, which still existed in the fifteenth century, had at least one advantage over freedom, viz., that employers of that age were actuated by the same all-sufficient motive in the preservation of the lives of their bondsmen as of their cattle, *i.e.*, selfishness.

It must be remembered that *villienage* was still extant in the reign of Henry VII., and the Statute of Labourers, passed as late in the century as 1496 (2nd Henry VII. c. 22), regulates the hours of work and meals by providing that "the hours of labour from March to September shall be from five o'clock in the morning till seven in the evening; that one hour shall be allowed for breakfast, an hour and a half for dinner, and half an hour for *noon-meate*; the hours of labour in winter are from the "springing of day" to dark, and only one hour is allowed for dinner, the extra half-hour at the meal

**Work and Wages*, Rogers, p. 28.

being only allowed for sleeping, from the middle of May to the middle of August.”*

In returning to the subject Rogers says, “I stated in a previous chapter that the day was one of eight hours’ work, and grounded my opinion on the fact that winter wages were reckoned to be payable only in the months of December and January, and from the fact that extra hours, sometimes as many as forty-eight in the week, are frequently paid for by the King’s agents when hurried work was needed. These hours, of course, were not continuous, being broken for nonschenes, dinner, and supper in the summer, and for nonschenes and dinner in the shorter days.”†

This is practically the sum of the writer’s contention as to the existence of an Eight-Hours’ Day during the fifteenth century, of which, to say the least, it is ambiguous; and in the absence of some more convincing proofs, I must strongly affirm my unbelief that British workmen who have already obtained, or are still agitating for the boon, are following in the wake of “their ancestors” of the “golden age.” That eight hours was the measure of daily labour, which the toilers in laborious occupations considered equitable at this or any subsequent period of our history, few will with confidence either affirm or deny. Doubtless some such consideration, amongst others, was an incentive to handicraftsmen’s enrolment in those earlier organisations which were the cradles of trades unions in the mother land. The dream of the system by British workmen, if such a happy illusion overshadowed them, must have had

* *History of the Middle and Working Classes* (p. 24), by J. Wade. London, Effingham Wilson, A.D. 1833.

† *Work and Wages* (p. 175).

its origin in the throbbings of the mediæval guild-halls before their decimation by the repressive enactments and freebooting caprices of Henry VIII. The guilds formulated many wise, provident, and philanthropic regulations, such as limiting the number of apprentices in each trade or mystery, provision for sick and mortuary expenses of their deceased members, prices of merchandise, fostering the polite arts, the dissemination of religious principles, and protection against over-production. They were, in fine, the safeguards against feudalism, just as the Eight-Hours' principle of to-day is the citadel of modern industrial associations against inroads which an age of invention and the perfection of machinery is calculated to effect in the employment of manual labour in the various processes of production and manufacture.

To enumerate all the reforms which were initiated for the benefit of mankind, and carried out by the guilds of the middle ages—particularly those obtained during the earlier portion of the fifteenth century—is not within the province of this work; but only the most superficial treatment of history could have been resorted to in an endeavour to inoculate that epoch with the germ of a system, which ordinary analytical conclusion proves incontestably could have no existence in the body politic, at least until human bondage was finally eradicated by statute in the reign of Charles II.

Leaving mediæval for later times, we can trace with tolerable accuracy the history of labour legislation, both social and political, through storm and change. The once powerful guilds became hotbeds of Conservatism; the opulent oligarchy oppressed the poorer members and elbowed them out into the mass of the brand-new demo-

cracy which was growing up around them. Under the changed conditions of these fraternities the workmen could have no place. The natural consequences followed. Trades unions were formed, in which the employers could have no place, and members were sworn to secrecy. Penal enactments followed. The most rigorous pains and penalties were connived at by the waning guilds. Those guilds, once the pride of the workmen, were now denounced; overt acts of violence, rattennings, burnings, and forcible intimidation were resorted to. Then followed legal and illegal arrests, trials by partisan judges, suborned witnesses, and packed juries. Sentences the most odious were passed on guilty and innocent alike; the scaffold and the convict ship claimed their victims; and all this in a country from which the shadows of slavery had been dispelled, and the sun of freedom had begun to warm the blood of the regenerated British proletariat. There was no Eight Hours' Day then—but the schoolmaster was abroad.

We now come to the nineteenth century—the age of reforms, adventure, enterprise, and boundless progress. The minds and the aspirations of the people of Great Britain are enveloped in a halo of ecstatic speculation. Men may lift up their heads and propound doctrines for which the pillory would at one time have been the reward of their temerity. Thus we find Robert Owen, as early as 1817, advertising Eight Hours as a just day's labour in the textile trade, in which he was a large manufacturer, and although he did not live to see the blessing light upon the labourers of his country, he yet gave earnest of his sincerity in that direction through being the first employer in the trade to reduce the prevailing measure

of fourteen or fifteen hours' labour to ten and a half, thus preparing the way for that stupendous agitation which the dream of an Eight Hours' system has evoked throughout the civilised world. In the struggle for the nine hours' limit, of which the late Mr. Thomas Brassey (father of the present Governor of Victoria) was a warm advocate, we have evidence of the awakening amongst capitalists in England in 1853 of that spirit of economic foresight and even-handed justice which had already taken root in a far-off land, as I shall presently explain.

A story is told of a conversation concerning the nine hours' movement between Mr. Brassey and another large contractor in London, when the former, expressing his opinions on the reasonableness of the demand, and the prospective advantages that would accrue to employers by a general recognition of the nine-hours' day, drawn from his own experiences, where the conservation rather than the enervation of workmen's physical powers was, with him, a subject of primary economic value, was curtly replied to by an exclamation of his friend: "Nine hours, indeed! Only think of our yards and our machinery standing still at four o'clock on a summer's afternoon!"

Meanwhile, the dream of Eight Hours drifts placidly along.

It is now time, however, to treat of the *true* origin of this great nineteenth-century reform. In the foregoing pages I have endeavoured, syllogistically, to prove that no evidence exists of an Eight Hours' Day, prevailing at any previous period of our history, and the untenableness of Rogers' contention; my premises being that the state of the country and the divisions of society under the various forms of government which prevailed

in Great Britain in Saxon and mediæval epochs, were incompatible with the conclusion of the possibility of such a limitation.

Contemporary writers have said "There is no magic in the word 'eight,'" but that there is something significant in the numeral as bearing upon the origin of the movement, I am tempted to show.

Two circumstances of national importance occurring simultaneously contributed in a large measure to the realisation of the Eight Hours' dream. One was the disruption of the Established Church of Scotland; the other, the institution of the body known as "The Chartists of England." The former embroglio was brought about through the repugnance of the good people of Aughterdard, in Scotland, refusing to receive the nominee pastor of their patron, Lord Kinnoul, in 1838, on which occasion they declared their independence by resenting the finding of *eight* judges, who insisted on the hereditary right of their peer to nominate without question whomsoever he chose, despite the will of the parishioners.

The latter, in the same year, promulgated "the people's charter" in the *eighth* month, and foremost among the agitators are the names of *eight* men, viz., William Lovett, Daniel O'Connell, Joseph Hume, with Bowring, Roebuck, Wakely, Thompson, and Crawford, all of whom, with the exception of Lovett, were members of the House of Commons.

Among the tenets of their gospel was the spectacle of *eight* rotten boroughs with an aggregate population of less than 24,000, returning sixteen members to the House of Commons, while the great metropolis of London, with 2,000,000 of freemen, had only the same representation.

Lovett, who was a poor journeyman cabinet maker, drafted the memorable "six points" which O'Connell put into practical shape—universal suffrage, voting by ballot, annual parliaments, equal electoral districts, no property qualification of representatives, and payment of members for their services.

The conspirators met and grumbled—they can grumble in London—and they taught others to grumble, and think, and act. The London Working Men's Association (which was established in 1836) produced a host of grumblers between 1838-42. Meetings were held at the "Crown and Anchor" in the Strand, at Finsbury Square, and at the "Bull Ring" in Birmingham, and stirring addresses delivered by the leaders of the new movement. Feargus O'Connor, John Collins, Wm. Lovett, J. Bronteene O'Brien, Thomas Cooper, and the dashing young orator, Henry Vincent, plied the people's ear with the interrogatory, "Does the reformed House of Commons represent the people of Great Britain and Ireland?" While this question was being agitated in the modern Babylon, the non-intrusionists of the Free Kirk in the north had shaken the dust from their shoes on the threshold of the old Establishment and followed Drs. Chalmers, Welsh, and Burns from the Presbytery of Aughterdard to the forum of public opinion, and demanded an answer to another question, which, since that time, has perplexed the plutocracy of many lands, viz., "Whether the people are the legitimate source of all power?" In these two schools did the pioneers of the Eight Hours' movement graduate, and a few years later resolved both problems to absolute practice under genial skies lighted by the Southern Cross.

On the 12th May, 1839, the barque *Tory* spread her

white wings to the breeze and sailed from the port of Plymouth with the first expedition destined for the colonisation of New Zealand. The voyagers, who were under the personal charge of Colonel E. G. Wakefield, were empowered by the promoters (of whom Lord Durham was chairman) to treat with the natives for land, make all necessary surveys, and generally to carry out a scheme of systematic settlement.* These promoters subsequently obtained a charter from the Imperial Government, and were then consolidated under the title of "The New Zealand Company."

The *Aurora* arrived on the 22nd January, 1840, with the first batch of "emigrants" from Great Britain, and seven days later, Captain Hobson landed and soon after founded settlements at Wellington, Auckland in 1840, and New Plymouth in 1841. The province of Otago was not settled until 1848, and then by a company which had its origin in the representations made by some of the non-intrusionists who accompanied Wakefield's expedition, the new company being called "The Otago Association."

This latter body obtained by purchase from the New Zealand Company an area of 400,000 acres as a special settlement, the terms stipulating a system of payment extending over a number of years.

The details of the experiment in the formation of the Otago Association were entrusted to the Rev. Thomas Burns and a committee of laymen belonging to, or sympathising with, the Free Church of Scotland. An attempt to organise a body of the reformers, under the title of the Edinburgh Association for the Colonisation

* New Zealand, which had hitherto been nominally within the jurisdiction of New South Wales, was on the 16th November, 1840, proclaimed an independent colony under the British Crown.

Scheme, was made as early as 1843, but the proceedings languished until the early part of 1847, when meetings were called both in Edinburgh and Glasgow, at which were formulated the rules and regulations for the proposed settlement. At these meetings it was announced that each property at the intended colony was to consist of a quarter acre of town allotment, ten acres of suburban land, and fifty rural acres, which were to cost £120 10s., or £2 per acre. Priority of selection was determined by priority of application. *Three-eighths* of the money realised was to be spent in emigration, *two-eighths* on roads, *one-eighth* on religion and education, and *two-eighths* went to the New Zealand Company in payment of purchase money

Stringent provisions were made for the building of churches and schools, as also against all forms of Sunday labour, and finally the institution of an *Eight Hours' working day*. It was found, however, that the latter clause would be inoperative, as contracts to bind free settlers to serve under any conditions of labour beyond the seas was not provided for by any Imperial statute. The clause, although tacitly agreed to by both parties to the contract, was not therefore embodied in the original documents.

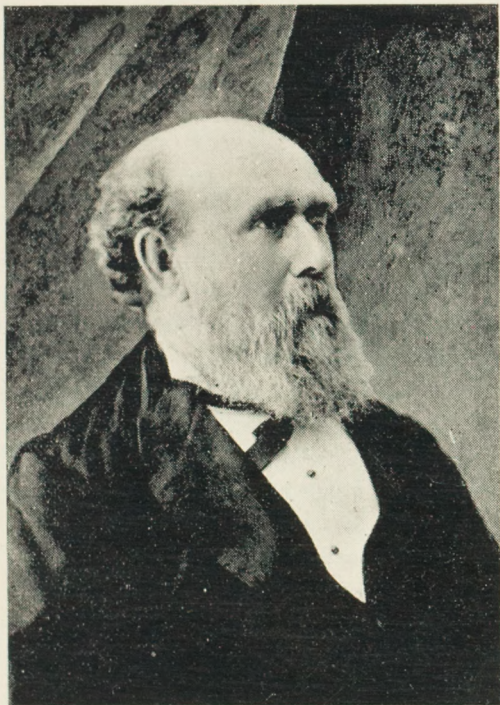
The pioneer ship, *John Wickliffe*, with the first settlers for Otago, sailed from Greenock on the 23rd November, 1847, and arrived on the 23rd March the following year. Only ninety emigrants came by this vessel, including Captain William Cargill, late of the 74th Regiment, an old Peninsular veteran, as resident superintendent, and Mr. C. Kettle as chief surveyor of the settlement.

The *Philip Laing*, with 326 emigrants, speedily followed, arriving off Otago on the 11th April, to which

Captain Cargill had already given the name of "Port Chalmers," in honour of the founder of the Free Kirk of Scotland, and who also named the site selected for the township "Dunedin"—the Celtic name of Edinburgh, and denominated the settlers "The Pilgrim Fathers." The Rev. Thomas Burns also arrived by the *Philip Laing*, as the first pastor to the settlement, and on landing caused a ship's bell to be swung from a tree on the headland overlooking the sight of the proposed township, and which since that time has borne the name of Bell Hill. From this eminence, amidst the sound of the axes of the woodmen and the swish of the break saws, as they drove through the green forest trees, the measure of EIGHT HOURS as the toiler's limit in the New World *first* reverberated through the dense New Zealand bush—the harbinger of those brighter days which at last dispelled with glorious realisation—the dream of ages. On the Sabbath, too, the bell sent forth its welcome notes to summon those non-intrusionists to their sylvan devotions beneath the canopy of heaven, unfettered by the presence of patronising dictators or the rigid doctrines of Courts of Sessions. Free as the ocean that washed their island home, and to encircle the minister of their own calling, and while each son of the Gael invoked a blessing on his sturdy efforts for prosperity and liberty in the land of the Maori, the memory of other days came back upon him, of those days when—

Leaning upon his spear,
The lyart* veteran heard the words of God
By Cameron thundered or by Renwick poured
In gentle stream.

* *I.e.*, aged, grey.



JAMES STEPHENS,

MASON, FOUNDER OF THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM IN
VICTORIA, 1856.

Born at Chepstow, on the river Wye, South Wales, 1821.
Arrived in Victoria, 1853. Died at Melbourne, 1889.

↓
but see p. 34



CHAPTER II.

NEW ZEALAND, A.D. 1848.—First Movements—John M'Indoe—Wm. Fox—Samuel Shaw—Mr. Valpey—First Assault on the Eight Hours—Its Defeat—New South Wales—Hargreaves Discovers Gold, 1851—Victoria, 1850-1—A Season of Rejoicing—The Parent of Australian Trades' Unions—Esmond Discovers Gold—Inpour of Population—Pioneer Trades' Union Suspended—Rush to the Diggings—Eight Hours in Abeyance—Ballarat—Peter Lalor—The Eureka Stockade, 1854—The First Australian Reform League—Burning of Licences—Civil War—Its Influence on the Eight Hours' System.

Like the Otago settlers, I have, in the preceding chapter, endeavoured to clear the ground and lay the foundations ready to receive the superstructure of my story, designed to be more or less interesting according to the point of sight from which it is viewed. It would be an error to suggest, as is frequently the case, that the corner stone of the fabric of Eight Hours was laid solely by Trades' Unions.

Neither in New Zealand, where it was first practised, nor in Victoria, which colony has maintained it inviolate

since 1856, was it the result of independent Trades Union action. In both colonies it was brought about by that true elixir of economic science—the virtue of mutual concession. That it has not been maintained and extended until it embraced much larger ramifications is due to the contrary vices of obstinacy and cupidity. Nor must it be supposed that a monopoly of these latter qualities which appears incidental to man's nature is possessed by either of the two forces on whom the issues of good or evil in the body politic so largely depend.

Purblind principles are contagious, and require skilful treatment. There are men alive to-day who are not adverse to bask in the popular illumination which the solid success of nearly half a century has shed around the acquisition of the principle, who looked askance on the idea in the days of its promulgation. It is even difficult to believe that the promoters of the Otago Association were serious in the implied agreement as to the operation of the Eight Hours' limit—but the settlers were.

Towards the close of 1848, attempts to subvert the principle were being made. Surveyors and their parties, who were the servants of the Association, were called upon to work nine and ten hours.

This demand the settlers resisted. Agitation ensued, but to all representations Mr. Wm. Fox, the agent of the Association, then residing in Wellington, proved inexorable. In vain was it represented that the settlers regarded the demand as an act of gross repudiation.

Acting under instructions from Mr. Fox, Captain Cargill, the Resident, and Mr. Kettle, the surveyor to the Association, proceeded to enforce the behest of their employers, and posted a notice on their office door setting

forth "that according to good old Scotch rule, ten hours were to constitute a legal day's work."

This document, which was intended to be the death knell of the system, produced a spontaneous and warm reprisal on the part of the settlers.

A mass meeting was immediately summoned by a hardy settler, Mr. Samuel Shaw, at which resolutions were passed, condemnatory of the breach of faith by the Association, and unanimously agreed to that the men should work eight hours only, and demand their full rates of pay under the terms and conditions upon which the settlement was founded. A crisis now appeared inevitable; the Association had thrown down the challenge to resolute men. Mr. Shaw became a marked individual, but he was efficiently sustained by Mr. Arthur J. Burns, the pastor's son, and some few others of the more prosperous settlers, who were gradually being enabled to absorb some of the labour dispensed with by the Association.

Foremost among the settlers who took an active part in fighting the men's battles are remembered the names of John M'Indoe, Wm. Martin, and John Hill, a cabinet-maker, who, with a sly vein of Gaelic humour, posted a copy of the famous document which appeared on the office door of the Resident on the inside of his tool chest, as a memento of an episode which threatened to culminate in the first lock-out in Australasia.

Here it will be observed that no Trades Unions existed to initiate or direct the protest of the workers against this barefaced breach of faith.

An insidious and cunningly devised attack was being made upon a primary condition in an honourable compact—a compact ratified under the sacred name of

religion, the parties to which were of a common nationality, but on the governing side philanthropy appears to have been strongly leavened with cupidity, regardless of plighted promises, which were rendered

“ False as dicer’s oaths,
And sweet religion a rhapsody of words.”

The Association’s notice was posted on the 24th January, 1849, and Captain Cargill at once pursued Mr. Shaw and his *confrères* with relentless rigour. Plenary powers being vested in the veteran soldier, he determined upon reducing to obedience the recalcitrant *employes*, as he would have done in days gone by should a mutinous outbreak develop among the tartaned rank and file of the gallant 74th.

Fortune, however, proverbially fickle, veered round to the more numerous battalion of the non-intrusionists, led by Mr. Shaw, the first struggle to retain possession of the dearly-prized boon being carried by the workmen through the fortuitous arrival of an English gentleman by the ship *Ajax*.

The new comer, a Mr. Valpey, had already acquired an extensive tract of country in the new settlement, and arriving just as the *contretemps* was at its height, he heard the case stated at the meeting called by Mr. Shaw on the 24th February, and immediately announced his intention of absorbing all the available labour of the district at advanced rates of wages, and further to maintain in its integrity the Eight Hours’ Day.

We must now leave the Scottish settlers, who may fairly claim to be the Australasian pioneers of the Eight Hours’ Movement, in possession of their prize and a “ Free Kirk,” the first public building raised in the

settlement, and which was opened on 1st September, 1848, and return to the Chartists.

It has been my good fortune to have met on terms of personal intimacy many of the old Chartists in London, and while "on tramp" through the provinces of the United Kingdom. Here in Australia I have enjoyed the friendship of an excellent few who carried their old principles well to the forefront in an honest endeavour to solve the problem of how best to secure the greatest good to the greatest number.

Their generous and self-sacrificing characteristics, their unswerving devotion to the reforms they advanced, their sufferings in dungeons, their poverty, partial successes in the Old World and triumphs in the New, build up the story of their lives; while cold-hearted neglect at their decease, nameless graves—oblivion, nay even obloquy, over their ashes is, alas! too often the only guerdon to their memory. Someone has said that "the power of oratory over illiterate persons is irresistible;" "but who," quoth one of the old order, and who afterwards became the founder of the Eight Hours' system in Victoria, "that has heard Henry Vincent and would not be a Chartist?"

It is only necessary to add a few words more on this subject. Government vengeance was wreaked on the leaders. O'Connor, O'Brien, Lovett, Cooper, and Collins, and many others, suffered terms of imprisonment in loathsome prison cells for the advocacy of the "six points," five of which some few of their disciples took a leading part in implanting in the infant constitutions of the Australian Legislatures, an example which later events have proved has not been wholly lost on British statesmen.

The collapse of the Chartist and Complete Suffragist movements in England created a spirit of unrest among the more active minds of the labouring population. Many, smarting under the ban of Government espionage and political and social ostracism, determined to throw off the yoke which they could no longer endure with patience and self-respect, and fly to other lands for that toleration and refuge which was denied to them on their native soil. Amongst those dashing young Chartists who then bade farewell to Britain, were some of those whose portraits are here presented to the public for the first time, and whose share in organising the free institutions of the country of their adoption I will more particularly refer to as the narrative proceeds.

The great continent of Australia at the period of these Old World agitations, was, in the geography of British workmen, a *terra incognita*.

Little was known of its history beyond its association with the ominously significant names of Botany Bay and Van Dieman's Land. The trend of population from the congested labour markets of Great Britain and Ireland was in the main westward. America counted its new comers by tens of thousands each month.

The inspiriting airs of freedom poured forth by Henry Russell fell on responsive ears, and scattered them broadcast over the prairies of the north, or hurried them onward to participate in the wild scenes then taking place on the gold fields of California.

It was not until the discovery of the precious metal by Edward Hammond Hargreaves on the 12th February, 1851, at Lewis Pond Creek, New South Wales, that the stream of emigration was diverted in the direction of the great South Land. The extreme southern

district of the continent, known as Port Phillip, and which up to this period (1851) formed a portion of New South Wales territory, was, on the 1st July of this year, separated from the parent settlement, and erected into an independent colony under the title of "Victoria." In this connection a strange and propitious coincidence has to be recorded. Almost at the same hour that legislative autonomy had been proclaimed in the new colony, a returned Californian miner named Esmond succeeded in proving for Victoria the possession of the yellow god at Clunes in still more accessible and abundant volume than Hargreaves developed at New South Wales.

Other rich finds speedily followed, and then set in the enormous tide of emigration from the Old World to the new El Dorado, where fortune beyond the dreams of avarice awaited the sturdy adventurer, and where the heart-burnings of social distinctions were all forgotten in the race for the unspeakable glory of wealth. The gold fields of Victoria were the chief magnetic power which drew towards them the greatest stream of immigrants from Great Britain, the continents of Europe and America, as well as large numbers from the sister colonies of Tasmania and New Zealand. Even the metropolis of the favoured colony was abandoned by the greater portion of its male population, while the rising townships throughout the settled districts around the Australian border contributed each its contingent.

While this vast tide of humanity is pouring in from the four winds to swell the already excited though limited population of Victoria, it will be necessary, in order to be strictly just in the various phases which led up to the Eight Hours' movement in Australia, to anticipate the arrival of the gold seekers by a few months to chronicle

an incident which had important bearings on the question.

Great rejoicings took place in Melbourne on the 11th November, 1850, when the ship *Lysander* brought the welcome tidings that Imperial sanction had been accorded to the separation from New South Wales of the district of Port Phillip, and which was henceforth to be recognised as an independent colony.

Although some months must elapse before the proper forms could be ratified by the New South Wales legislature, the liberated colonists determined on keeping high holiday.

On the 15th the new masonry bridge, the first permanent structure to span the River Yarra (although incomplete) was declared open for public traffic by His Honour Superintendent Latrobe.

Then followed a panorama of fetes, concerts, illuminations, pastimes the most extravagant, and inconveniences, amongst which the cessation of the issues of the daily press and the stoppage of public conveyances, &c., which at any other time would be simply unendurable, were unnoticed in the intoxicating pleasures of the festive season.

Around a table which groaned under a menu that would astonish a Lord Mayor of London were seated a number of young robust British workmen. Their bronzed and bearded faces bore evidence of exposure to the glint of an Australian summer's sun.

They appeared to revel with conscious pride in the success they were celebrating, and in which they had taken a part—that of nation-building.

The toast list is reached. "The Queen" (cheers). Her Majesty had been pleased to accord her sanction to the

desire of the people that the infant colony should be henceforth called by her name—VICTORIA.

The National Anthem is sung, Kennington Common is forgotten; the charge of the cavalry at London Bridge, and the bludgeoning of the people by the police at the bull ring, under the pretence of law and order, are buried in oblivion; the Chartists and the Complete Suffragists, with their charters and their sufferings, are passed over; sufficient's the day, &c. Send round the wine. "The Day we Celebrate." Cheers echo again and again. The next toast—"The Builder of Princes Bridge," Mr. David Lennox, one of Victoria's first contractors, and one of her best. Songs and speeches and a final quaint toast proposed by a quaint-looking individual, although in the prime of life—"Success to Blue-stone." *

Ridiculous as the flippant vagary appeared, it was seriously responded to by a man of muscular proportions and an intelligent presence. The speaker, who evidently was no mean authority upon the merits of building material, prophesied the construction of Victoria's new Parliament Houses, railways, bonded and free stores, mills, warehouses, and the thousand other purposes which the native product would be made to serve in the immediate future of the embryo colony, and from which the honey-handed stonecutters of Victoria would draw the reward of honest toil. The proposer was the late Mr. Samuel Ramsden, the well-known miller, than whom, in later years a more bitter opponent of the Eight Hours did not live, and the response was delivered

* The material used in the construction of Princes Bridge, since removed and replaced by the present structure.

by Mr. Thomas Smith, a foreman mason, and the founder of the first regular Australian Trades' Union.

This festivity, which was presided over by Mr. J. Cowperthwaite, was a banquet of the operative stone masons of Melbourne, in honour of the dual celebration of the opening of Princes' Bridge, and the glad tidings brought by the *Lysander*, and was held at the Exchange Hotel, in Collins-street, which then covered the site now occupied by that ornate structure, the Bank of New South Wales. The immediate result of the reunion was the formation of the first Operative Masons' Society in Victoria, which was opened on the 16th November, 1850, twenty-five members being enrolled, with Mr. Thomas Smith as President; Joseph Healey, Treasurer; and Alec. Campbell as Secretary. This Society, the precursor of all the labour organisations of Australasia, holds also the primary place of honour in the establishment of the Eight Hours' system in Victoria.*

The rush to the goldfields which set in towards the close of 1851 threw all other schemes of industrial enterprise out of joint.

Colonists, however, who had already passed some years in the building up of homes and had invested their capital according to their means in various pursuits—

* I am aware that in making this statement I open up debatable ground. A confusion of ideas seems to exist as to what may be termed the "source of a system." In this contention I have always maintained that the fountain head of any organisation is that nucleus which has itself grown and survived sufficiently long to produce a continuity of similar elements to itself in the plane of evolution. If this hypothesis be correct, then the Operative Masons' Society of Victoria, which can produce an unbroken record of association since 1850, and from which, on the establishment of the Eight Hours' system in 1856, all other Labour Unions have succeeded, may unequivocally claim to be the parent of the Trades Unions of Australasia. It is equally absurd for other bodies whose existence was ephemeral to claim precedence of the Masons, as for some otherwise worthy individuals to call themselves "Eight Hours' Pioneers," whose only title to that distinction consists in the fact that they happened to be alive at the time it was achieved without their aid. As well might nineteenth century folk call themselves Roundheads because they have seen Oliver Cromwell—in the waxworks.

some questionable, some estimable—which they calculated would return them a profit on their outlay, were at first sceptical and loth to forego the reward of that virtue which they called “thrift.” Mistaken monosyllable! how many sophisms are connected with that indefinite phrase! Meantime ship after ship pour their thousands a week from every clime on the golden shores. The immigrants come prepared to “rough it.” The miner’s pick and shovel, a tin dish, a billy can, a couple of days’ supply of food, the almost inevitable pipe, tobacco, and a good stock of lucifers, and the new chums immediately present the back seams of their hose to the apostles of “thrift” in Melbourne, and are soon lost to sight as they plunge into the dense wilderness beyond on their way to the interior.

The year 1852 opened and closed in the midst of the wildest excitement. Lucky diggers began to return, having made “their pile,” and many immediately took ship for the Old World. The gold fever had now irresistibly set in. Mechanics in Melbourne dropped their tools and fled to the diggings. The Burra Burra copper mines of South Australia were abandoned; Adelaide was fast becoming a deserted city. Our early friends of the Free Kirk settlement in Dunedin heard the knell of their prized Eight Hours from the vessel’s deck at Port Chalmers, as her prow was turned to breast the foam of the Pacific on their way to the land within whose bosom reposed the ore from which is forged—

“The master-key of human hearts.”

It will not, therefore, be matter for surprise that with the exodus of all classes of workmen from Melbourne that the pioneer Society of Operative Masons suffered a temporary check, but although the greater number of its

members betook themselves to the goldfields, yet the Society was not abandoned. Its meetings, through diminished attendances, were adjourned *sine die*, and its effects, books, and funds placed in charge of Mr. Thomas Smith, who retained possession of the properties until the resumption of the meetings of the members at a later period.

It would be idle to assume that the Eight Hours' movement, which had taken root in New Zealand three years previously, was an unopened book among the workingmen of Melbourne in 1852. There are some, even amongst the survivors of the Victorian movement, who appear to have forgotten the circumstances, and whose memory will, I am sure, be refreshed by the narrative of facts I here reproduce, all of which I have verified on the most unimpeachable authority.

That no recorded movement for Eight Hours took place in Victoria before 1856 was, I am convinced, solely due to the unsettled state of society consequent on the breaking out of the goldfields, and the inpouring of population of diverse nationalities and susceptibilities, rendering common action on any other question than gold-getting temporarily futile. The Eight Hours' movement was therefore only in abeyance.

Ballarat is a native name, and defined by the aboriginals of Victoria as "a resting place." Whether for the quick or dead scions of the dusky race is a point I fear must be consigned to the atmosphere of tradition. Disturbed at length from its primeval solitude by the intrusion of a vast horde of toilers, the hills and valleys rung with the clanging sounds of labour's sway.

Thither journeyed during the years 1852-3-4, in a confused and continuous cavalcade, a heterogeneous mass of

humanity—Britons, Americans, Teutons, Scandinavians, Franks, Jews, Chinese and Turks, together with a host of runaway sailors and a few of the soldiers “wot skipped.”

The resting place was soon dotted with innumerable tents, and beyond these the surface was broken in a thousand excavations, the rude bush windlass and bucket, the rush to the creek to pan out, the manufacture of “cradles,” the construction of dams, erection of stoves, the lucky find, and the daily arrivals of fresh contingents to the charmed field, all produced a saturnalia of excitement probably without a parallel in the world’s history. The arrivals included a fair infusion of those agitators who had already taken a part in some of those episodes in the old land to which I have already alluded. They carried their principles with them in their swags to the new. To teach the people of England to be discontented under any system of Government persecution was with them a cardinal virtue. That the instincts of persecution should be hereditary under a modified form of administration was to them intolerable. They fled from it in the north, only to find the hideous monstrosity incubating in the south. Alas! bad advisers and mistaken principles, added to an insane reliance on the possession of coercive power, have sent more than one of our early administrators to premature graves. “Unhappy is the man who chooses a nation for his antagonist.”

The first grievances which beset the early diggers’ life on the gold fields was the imposition of extortionate charges for a licence to break ground, accompanied by a terrorising system of enforcement by Government officials and police.

At first the ordinance was received with some sort of

good-humoured banter, but soon collisions occurred between the officers of the law and the people. Arbitrary arrests succeeded. Summary convictions, men chained to trees, indignities the most brutal were practised under the name of law, until the people were goaded into insurrection. Fortunately for the country—unhappily for the victims—the old organising elements were present in good force. Not a few of the veterans who, in the early “thirties,” at Birmingham, sung “The Gathering of the Unions,”* and with uncovered heads registered, as with one voice, amid a concourse of 300,000, the Reform Oath—“With unbroken faith, through every peril and privation, we here devote ourselves and our children to our country’s cause”—had come to Victoria.

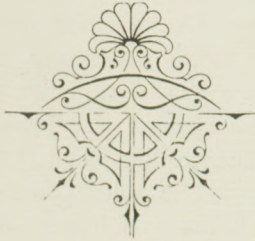
The discontented diggers, led by a brave, warmhearted, Irish gentleman,† resolved on overt resistance. A mass meeting was held beneath the constellation of the Southern Cross on the evening of the 30th November, 1854, when the first Australian Reform League was launched with terrible purpose. A huge fire threw a lurid glare on the resolute faces of a large gathering of determined men. An oath was administered, the Government licences were tossed into the flames that curled ominously upward against the midnight sky, the standard of revolt was unfurled, the rebels retired to their entrenched camp, which they called the “Eureka Stockade,” and three days later, on the memorable Sunday morning (3rd December,

* Patriotic song of the reformers of 1832.

† This gentleman—the Hon. Peter Lalor—lost his left arm in the encounter on the eventful 3rd December, 1854. A price was subsequently set upon his head, but no bribe proved sufficient to tempt the poor but honourable people to betray the man who fought and bled in their cause. He afterwards lived to occupy for some years the Speaker’s chair in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria.

1854) these malcontents, although defeated by the regular soldiery and the police, sealed with their blood their devotion to the inalienable right of British freemen to be governed only by laws made by the people and for the people.

The charter which had been denied to the agitators in England was soon after carried by them in Victoria, and with it the acquisition of "THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM."





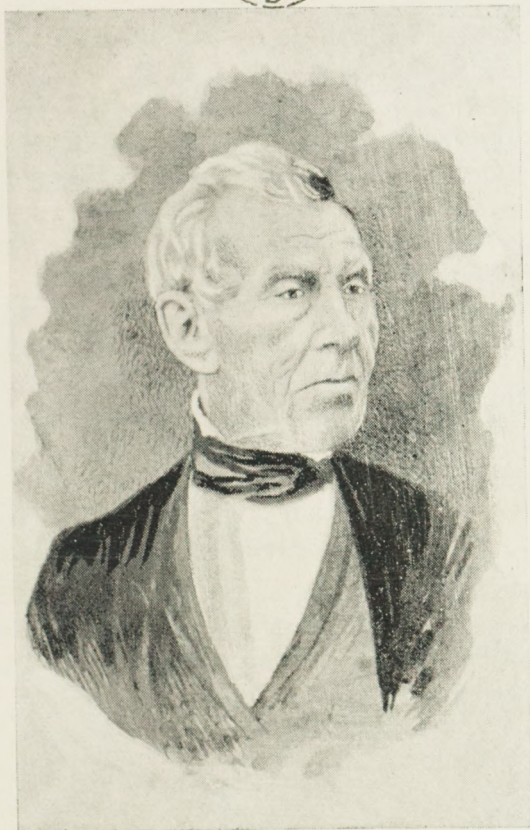
CHAPTER III.

AUSTRALIA, 1848-55.—Simultaneous Movements—New South Wales—An Australian Drought—Financial Disasters—Resuscitation—Collapse of the New Zealand Company and the Otago Association—Arrival of Eight Hours' Pioneers in Australia—James Stephens—Thomas Walter Vine—James Gilvray Galloway—Benjamin Douglass—Life on an Emigrant Ship—Better Distribution of Population—Rise of the Mechanical Arts in New South Wales and Victoria—Stonemasons' Movements, Sydney and Melbourne—Sydney Lodge First Declare for the Eight Hours—Hugh Laundry—Thomas Eaves—Melbourne Lodge Establish Branches—"Mac's Hotel," Collingwood—James Stephens First Mover in Victoria—Biographies—The Belvidere Hotel—Conferences—The Old Queen's Theatre—Employers—Abraham Linacre—David Mitchell—Samuel Amess—John Holtom—Walter Bell—George Cornwall—

THE EIGHT HOURS WON.

Nature, in her inscrutable designs, sometimes proclaims a strike in Australia.

On these occasions she arbitrarily refuses for a considerable period to supply the pluvial necessities indispensable to animal and vegetable life, the result being that millions of



THOMAS WALTER VINE,
CARPENTER, PRESIDENT OF THE INAUGURAL COMMITTEE
OF THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM IN VICTORIA, 1856.
Born in London, 1796. Arrived in Victoria, 1853. Died
at Echuca, 1882.

sheep are immaturely shorn and then turned adrift into the bush, where they are eaten by the natives, instead of kangaroo, or else torn to pieces by the enormous hordes of wild dogs which infest the inhospitable interior. For the same reason whole hordes of cattle are frequently slaughtered for their hides and tallow, while the parched vegetation becomes veritable tinder, on which the sun's rays, through the medium of a piece of broken glass, carelessly strewn upon the ground, will ignite and spread devastation over the once smiling homesteads of the settlers. Some such contingency took place north of the River Murray in New South Wales, towards the close of the "forties," and at a time when a rapid increase in population was becoming hourly manifest, inducing excessive speculation in imports, for which it became imperative to find cash payment, in lieu of the ordinary trade exchange, which was paralysed by the unfortunate visitation known to the Australian pastoralist and merchant as—the drought.*

Coincident with the disaster the whaling and sealing industry in the Southern Ocean, which at one time promised to be reckoned among our staple sources of export, suffered an almost complete collapse, through the competition of the New Zealand maritime rovers, who, being located right in the very heart of the whaling grounds, became formidable rivals in the trade, and caused a falling-off of income to New South Wales from £224,000 a few years previous, to £29,000 in 1849, from

* In 1849 the quantity of rain registered as having fallen in New South Wales was only 21.485 inches for the whole year, or barely one-half of the minimum annual fall of the seven previous years; while the district of Port Phillip for the same year registered a total rainfall of 47.23 inches. The amount of live stock depending more or less upon pasture at this period in New South Wales and Port Phillip being, in round numbers, 28,000,000 sheep, 1,500,000 head of horned cattle, and 30,000 horses.

this source alone. If anything were needed to intensify the gloomy picture of this epoch, it was the commercial crisis which had simultaneously taken place in the old land; bills otherwise renewable were called up, and no money to meet them. Squatters were unable to discharge their responsibilities to the Crown in payment of pastoral rents. Meanwhile the Colonial Treasurer was at his wit's end, with a depleted exchequer and the accruing liabilities of the State, payment of public service, salaries of the military and civil staff in the Imperial service, which as a legacy had been continued to remind us of a darker page in our history, and the pressure of the London banking agencies for remittance of interest on State bonds for which there was no available funds, unless by a sale of national debentures. These were bad times. Bad, however, as they seemed, they might have been worse but for the fortunate discovery of a squatter in the Yass district, named O'Brien, who realised the fact that sheep which would otherwise be abandoned, or at best sold for one shilling each, would, if boiled down, produce six shillings' worth of tallow, and in a country where sheep are counted by the million, the sordid advantages of this discovery were partially reassuring.

The principal occupations of the people at this time were mainly in pastoral pursuits, together with those engaged in the preparation of the staple products for export, the importing and distributing community, and the minor portion engaged in the few mechanical arts, such as ship-building, brick-making, rope-making, and a few woollen manufactures.

It is obvious that with such a state of utter prostration in the national resources that all branches of internal

domestic trade suffered a corresponding fall; and at the close of the year 1849, with a population of 187,000 in New South Wales, exclusive of Port Phillip, there were less than 5000 following occupations in the mechanical arts.

Better times supervened, however, for New South Wales in 1850, when, with the return of a good season, the starting of her railways, and the intelligence being bruited abroad that gold had been seen, even before Hargreaves returned from California, and a prudent decrease in imports consequent upon the glut which had already swamped the market, enabled the infant industries to revive and extend in a promising ratio.

In the following year the mother colony, like her now divorced daughter Victoria, was in the throes of excitement over their new-found treasure—gold.

All drawbacks were forgotten, and a new era opened out which threw all other wealth-producing speculations into comparative shadow.

It will, therefore, be easily conjectured that neither of the two positions I have sketched, viz., excessive depression, or the superlative chances of fortune, were approved factors in the development of a social problem of the character of the Eight Hours' system. Indeed, if it existed, the very appearance of such contingencies would have been highly inimical, if not totally destructive of its sustainment.*

Under these circumstances it may be safely asserted that no Eight Hours' Day existed in Australasia, except

* "Three years later, on the discovery of our own gold, all classes of labour abandoned the city for the goldfields. Closely following the influx of population came immense consignments of goods; and with the exorbitant wages demanded by workmen, manufactures in the face of these importations became impossible." "Progress of New South Wales," p. 451 (Thos. Richards. Govt. Printer, Sydney, N.S.W.).

in New Zealand, until the subsidence of the gold fever in the year 1855, which, taken together with the increase of population and the immense impetus given to the building trades consequent upon the raising of public edifices in the cities of Sydney and Melbourne, reawakened the idea in the minds of those who were destined to be its pioneers in the great south land.

Notwithstanding the efforts put forth by Mr. Valpey and others in Otago, the settlement at Dunedin languished ; very few emigrants being sent out after the first arrivals, through the inability of the Association to dispose of the land for which it was indebted under a four-years' agreement with the New Zealand Company. In the year 1851 Mr. Fox, the non-intrusionist agent, whose permanent residence was in Wellington, the capital of the colony, had also the mortification of beholding the seeds of the Eight Hours' exotic, like his native emblem—the thistle, borne on the winds from Otago, and take root before his eyes in the very seat of Government under the fostering care of Mr. D. S. Parnell, who arrived in New Zealand as early as 1839, probably with the first Wakefield Expedition. By this time the New Zealand Company had met with insurmountable difficulties, and being unable to meet its engagements, was obliged to surrender its charter in 1852, which year also saw the close of the Otago Association, the rush to the Australian treasure fields, and, as I have already indicated, the first blight on the corporate efforts of the Presbyterian projectors to retain as a system the Eight Hours' Day.

Having now described the first actual steps taken of which history is cognisant for the achievement of an Eight Hours' working day, and traced to Australasia the successful, though apparently temporary, initiation of

the movement from 1848 to 1852, together with a *résumé* of the disturbing elements which beset its path by the breaking out of the goldfields in New South Wales and Victoria, we at once enter upon the new era of the rise and progress of all classes of mechanical arts, which as a natural corollary took place on the influx of population. Not only the building trades, the wages in which speedily rose to thirty-five shillings per day, but in all the other branches of industry, a demand set in which for a time baffles description. The magic of a digger's chance of instantaneous fortune attracted by far the greatest proportion of arrivals from other countries to the gold fields. There were, however, a speculative minority who remained in the cities by the sea-board and ministered to the necessities of the gold-seekers, and to whom the prevailing high rates of wages and the more rational conditions of centralisation were alike congenial and profitable. Shipbuilders, coachbuilders, jewellers, harness-makers, blacksmiths, coopers, brewers, printers, butchers, brickmakers, and roadmakers were at a premium. The market for the distribution of clothing, boots and shoes, tools, preserved food stocks, &c., still remained in the hands of the merchants, who shared with the shipping companies the rich harvest of the period. Of the latter, the old Black Ball, the White Star, and Green's lines of clipper-built ships were the principal competitors, while to and fro a fleet of "tramp" ships, freighted with hardy adventurers, studded the ocean, driving onward in the break-neck race of Mammon. Amongst these "tramps," arrived at the port of Melbourne on the 17th of July, 18⁵³~~52~~, the barque *Elizabeth*, bringing to Victoria James Stephens, a

book case put in
 11th, p. 16

working stonemason, the destined FOUNDER OF THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM.

In the following month, by the ship *Calphurnia*, arrived Thomas Walter Vine, a carpenter, and in the month of January, 1855, the good ship *Shand*, from Plymouth, anchored in Portland Bay, Victoria, and from whose deck two more of the future pioneers of the Eight Hours' Charter first set foot on Australian soil; these being James Gilvray Galloway, a Scotch stonemason, and Benjamin Douglass, a plasterer, who hailed from the romantic "wealds of Kent." It would be altogether beyond the limit of the reader's patience, or the necessities of this work, to detail the names and circumstances under which numerous other "*agitators*" arrived either in New South Wales or Victoria during the early "fifties." It may, however, be interesting to point out that, although the places of their nativities were scattered over various parts of the United Kingdom, nearly every man amongst them graduated in that university of overt conspiracies and political ferment—London.

True to their instincts, no doubt need be entertained that they endeavoured to emulate the hatchings of their forerunners of the Free Kirk, while on the long three or four months' voyage from England to the antipodes. Life on an emigrant ship in those days was an event which neither time nor change can ever efface from the memory.

A passenger list of from six hundred to a thousand was not uncommon in these floating communities, which was regulated by distinction of class and sympathies, marked as in the purlieus of the shore aristocracy with the bordering proletariat. The games, the speculations, the uncertain future, the vanished hopes and vain regrets,

the dream of sudden prosperity and speedy return to the dear ones left behind ; or the gloomy forebodings of one's bones whitening in the trackless Australian bush—Bah ! a song—A fair wind sprung up. “ Stand by the main sheets there.” The sailors call out, “ Now, my hearties, this is Melbourne rope.” Haul away, singing—

“ Away to the land of gold,
 Away to the land of gold,
 Crowd on all sail and bear away,
 Away to the land of gold.”

The arrival in port soon dispelled whatever sentiment idleness on shipboard may have engendered, and the stern realities of life in a new country have now to be encountered.

Thomas Walter Vine, with several of the emigrants who had already decided on their struggle with destiny, soon placed distance between themselves and the sand hummocks of Port Phillip, and found themselves amid the pandoric excitement and the Bacchanalian debaucheries of a digger's life. Here in many of the little coteries that gathered by the camp fire at night-time, or in the rude places of recreation, which, in those days, the goldfields boasted of, were schemes formulated which became more and more in antagonism with the embryo form of government and administration then existing. How many a prim London mechanic, a Scotch shipwright, a Welsh miner, and an Irish refugee grumbled in chorus at these nocturnal conclaves ! And having now eschewed all other forms of gaining a livelihood for the *abandon* of the auriferous hills and gullies of the south, they pledged unalterable fidelity to each other, as the grey beards in the deep leads of old Ballarat and Bendigo can tell. Verily a new diggings, not less than adversity, brings about strange companionships.

We must now leave our Victorian gold-seekers to their conspiracies, and their passage through their baptism of fire at the Eureka Stockade, and take another glance at the mother colony, who, being now disentangled from "her undutiful daughter," as the late Sir John Robertson designated Victoria to the writer of these pages, and pursue our quest of the Eight Hours' movement, which had up to the present been in Australia what it had hitherto been in England—a dream.

More settled conditions prevailed in 1855, through the better distribution of the population; wages became easier, and a more intelligent application to the various arts of production was everywhere to be observed.

A few trades' organisations began to be formed, and foremost amongst these, as appears their wont, was that of the Operative Stonemasons' Society of New South Wales.

The lodge, as a meeting of the Society is technically called, met at the Parramatta Hotel, Sydney, and included on its roll some "tramps" from Victoria. One of the first questions dealt with was the hours of labour, which were then practically undefined by either code or usage, ten hours per day, or from fifty-four to fifty-six per week, being the prevailing measure in Sydney. The time being opportune, the Eight Hours' question was debated in the lodge and on the works, building operations being rife in the capital and suburbs.

It was not, however, without some misgiving, even in the prosperous state of trade, that a member named Hugh Laundry proposed, at a meeting held on the 22nd September, 1855, "That in the opinion of this Society Eight Hours should be the maximum of a day's labour." The motion was seconded by Thomas Eaves, who subse-

quently took a leading part as a representative of the masons of Victoria in many another important movement.

The motion was declared carried unanimously, and thus the first blow against the old long-hour system had been struck within the continent of Australia.* It was further resolved to wait upon the employers in the building trade and request their concurrence.

At this stage I have to express regret that a lax system of organisation seems to have prevailed in the colony, and in consequence of which the names and records of those New South Wales employers and workmen who were gifted with that prudent foresight to perceive where a reform can be agreed upon without loss of dignity or means to either, and act upon that conviction, are not available to the chronicler of these events. Amongst the latter, it would be unjust to pass over the names of Mr. T. Barter, now, I believe, a resident of Victoria, and Mr. W. Burgess.

Sufficient, however, that almost all the contractors in the eastern metropolis at once conceded the boon, the principal opposition to the measure coming from Messrs. Tooths Bros., then engaged in the building of the Parramatta-street Brewery.

From these works, therefore, the Masons' Society withdrew its members, the greater portion of whom were immediately absorbed by Mr. Reynolds, the contractor

* For the information of our English and foreign readers I may be pardoned for suggesting that "Australasia" includes New Zealand, Tasmania, and the adjacent islands in the Southern Ocean, as contra-distinguished from "Australia," which is the continent proper. I should not have thought this geographical note necessary, but having occasion to observe some years ago a rare specimen of profound official ignorance of the sub-divisions of Australia, in painted characters on cases containing a consignment of small arms for the Government of Victoria, setting forth—"Consigned to Colonel Anderson, Commandant Local Forces, Melbourne, New South Wales," my anxiety to make the position clear may excuse my temerity.

for the new Parramatta waterworks, and in less than a fortnight all opposition was withdrawn by the employers of Sydney, and the Eight Hours, as far as this branch of industry is concerned, was won by the Operative Stonemasons' Society of New South Wales.

On the 5th of February of the same year (1855), their brother craftsmen, the masons of Victoria, whose Society it will be remembered adjourned indefinitely in 1851, on the breaking out of the goldfields, renewed active operations, many of the former members returning disappointed from the diggings, vigorously commenced the work of resuscitation, the demand for labour in the building trades at this time being animated and profitable.

Although in this treatise I do not intend to deviate from the purpose of the work by describing the formation of Trades' Unions in Australasia, I find it necessary to temporarily depart from that resolve in the case of the Masons' Society of Victoria, because it bears primarily on the origin of the Eight Hours' system. In the solution of the question, "Who, or what body, deserves the credit of the origin of the Eight Hours' system?" I shall endeavour by the light of impartial, indeed the only testimony, which over thirty years' acquaintance with the greater number of the actors in the scenes I describe can effect, and such oral and documentary evidence which they have placed at my disposal, and aided in a large measure by the public press, to place the readers in many lands in a position to judge for themselves. To return to the Masons. Tom Smith, the first President, in 1850-1, on a requisition from the returned members being presented to him, handed over the books, cash, and other properties, which had remained during the

gold-fever interregnum in his possession, to Edward Gallett and George Sparkes, the Society's deputies.

As it is sometimes said that the history of a country is read in the lives of its great men, so also is the correction of internal abuses existing in communities a reflex of the character of the men who launched the frail barque of social reform on the vacillating and uncertain tide of public opinion.

Innumerable pictures are every day presented of such men, and a few portraits of these will be found in this work.

James Stephens, the second son of an operative stonemason of the same name, was born at Chepstow, South Wales, on the River Wye, in the year 1821, and at an early age adopted his father's trade, which he followed ever after through life. In 1839, while slowly recovering from a severe crushing, the effects of a fall from scaffolding on which he was working (falling a distance of thirty feet to the ground), he was induced to join the Masons' Society in Newport, where he first heard the name of Chartism associated with the glowing eulogy bestowed on its brilliant young apostle Henry Vincent.

Returning convalescence enabled him to attend one of these aggregate meetings, at which Vincent harangued the hardy mountaineers. The mind of youth is eminently receptive at the age of eighteen. Stephens listened and was captivated; he immediately added his name to the roll of those who stood beneath the banner of the "six points," and drank deep of the fountain from which flowed the stream of political discontent. The Newport riots succeeded, in which he got severely handled, but narrowly escaping capture, he fled to London, in order to be closer to the great heart of the

agitation. Here Stephens became acquainted with Lovett, Cooper, O'Connor, O'Brien, and other leaders who were at this time fevering the blood of the British people from John o'Groats to Land's End.

Pursuing his trade, he obtained work at Windsor Castle, but was speedily obliged to leave the royal precincts on its becoming known he was a Chartist. Returning to London, we find him at the building of the new Houses of Parliament at Westminster, where the irony of fate chanced to roll together over two hundred masons, every man of whom was a Chartist, and subsequently in their company Stephens assisted to carry the great petition and Charter, with its one million two hundred thousand signatures, from Kennington to the tables of the House of Commons. Stephens' subsequent career in the metropolis, as one of the leading agitators for the four o'clock movement, and his organisation against its infringement by Mr. Miers, the builder of some of the principal ecclesiastical edifices in Great Britain, and his management of the masons while still a youth, presiding over 1200 experienced craftsmen, is sufficient to indicate the character of the reforms which this precocious young Welshman charged himself to achieve in after years beyond the seas.

Of the life of Thomas Walter Vine more might be written than of any other of the pioneers whom it has been my good fortune to meet, did space permit. Born at Peerless-road, City-road, London, in the year 1796, in those days of seething agitation in England, which had its origin in the scenes of blood which were enacted on the other side of the channel, and while the trials for "constructive treason" at home was the salad of

the political *beanfeasts** with which the working classes of England regaled themselves, and nourished the intellects of their progeny.

These were the days of Horne Tooke, Thelwell, Hardy, Kyd, Holcraft, and their champion, Erskine, who battered down the intolerance of Government interference with the liberty of free people to express resentment against wrongs, and the publication of those wrongs which, he convinced the people of England, was the true safety valve of a well-regulated constitution.

Young Vine, in due course, became a carpenter, and at an early age entered the service of the Royal Navy, in which capacity he saw some stirring events during some years while engaged in the suppression of the slave trade in the China Seas. His final experience in the maintenance of Britain's supremacy on the main, was on board one of the guard ships stationed off the coast of St. Helena during the period of Napoleon's captivity, until that martyr of soaring ambition to universal empire looked out for the last time from the heights of Longwood over those waters, across whose surface he was ultimately borne to his tomb in *La Belle France*.

In later years, on leaving the Navy, Vine became the compatriot of John Cartwright, William Cobbett, Daniel O'Connell, and the leaders in the Reform movement of 1832. The passage of this Bill he had the satisfaction of witnessing, and soon after joined the very men who were loudest in declaiming against it then—the Chartists.

Of Charles B. Vine, the son of the former, who has been a resident of New Zealand for many years past,

* The technical name given by some trades in the old country to denote their annual picnics or reunions.

and to whom I am indebted for some of the interesting reminiscences of the early movements of Eight Hours in Dunedin and Melbourne, it is due to his father's memory to acknowledge the fidelity with which he seconded the veteran's efforts for a glorious inauguration, and under his instructions conducted the official duties of Secretary to the first of these monster cavalcades, which annually proclaim the success of the system.

It is further due to himself to add that while he remained in Victoria he watched over with anxious solicitude the growth and expansion of the prize he had helped to call into existence; while, even now, as the broad Pacific divides him from those halcyon days of his youth, he still takes a deep interest in all that concerns the story of the Eight Hours, as depicted by various writers in many lands.

As I have already indicated, the resuscitated Masons' Society began their usual fortnightly meetings for the regulation of trade questions, the lodge being held at Supreme Court Hotel, at the corner of Latrobe and Russell-streets, Melbourne. A large roll was soon in evidence, and amongst the first questions discussed was that of sub-contracting, and the extension of the Society by branch lodges being opened in the suburbs. In order to give effect to this determination the office of Corresponding Secretary was established, and to this was appointed James Gilvray Galloway. On the 4th February, 1856, a branch was opened at Clark's Hotel (now Mac's), Smith-street, Collingwood, James Stephens and Galloway attending as representatives of the parent lodge, for the purpose of inauguration, Andrew Brown being elected Chairman and George Sparkes Secretary.

Here it was, and on this occasion, that the first Victorian movement for the Eight Hours' Day was initiated by James Stephens. On the following meeting night, 18th February, Stephens again attended, well prepared with compendious notes and statistics, which in the course of his address to the members of the new lodge he freely used, particular reference being made to Dr. Cummins' lectures on the short-hour movement, delivered at Crown Court, London, and at which Stephens was a constant visitor.

The transplanted Chartist carried his point with the new lodge, a committee being appointed, consisting of the Chairman (Andrew Brown), Jephthah Freeman, and John Gration, of the Collingwood branch; with James Stephens, James Galloway, and William Duncan as the delegates from the Melbourne lodge. The news of the contemplated movement spread rapidly, and the other branches of the building trade were not slow to emulate the example of the masons. On the 1st March the bricklayers held a meeting, and resolved to throw in their lot with the masons in the agitation.

On the 5th of the same month a conference of the masons' delegates was held at the St. Lawrence Hotel, Gertrude-street, Fitzroy (since demolished), and subsequently at the Belvidere Hotel, on the Eastern Hill, where the following resolutions were passed:—

1st. "That it is the opinion of this meeting that a reduction of the hours of labour would be greatly beneficial to the trade, and also tend to improve our social and moral condition, and that this meeting pledges itself to use every lawful endeavour to bring about so desirable a result."

2nd. "That it is the opinion of this meeting that, to carry the foregoing resolution into effect, it is indispensably necessary that we be in a perfectly organised condition."

3rd. "That twelve members be elected to carry out the above object."

Agreeable to this latter the following were duly elected:—James Stephens, James Galloway, William Duncan, Eustace Farr, Jephthah Freeman, David Halliday, Thomas Murray, Isaac Corben, James Backhouse, Alexander Todd, Joseph Garrett, and George Sparkes. To this list the names of John Gration, Thomas Smith, and Alexander Kerr were added, and thus was formed the first Executive of the Eight Hours' system. Subsequently, and before the 21st April, 1856, other sections of the building trade elected and sent representatives to act on this Committee, and these bodies took part in the proceedings of that memorable day. Others followed at intervals AFTER THAT DATE; but it must be evident that NONE OTHER THAN THOSE ENROLLED ON THE 21ST EMPLOYERS OR WORKMEN, HOLD ANY CLAIM TO THE TITLE OF PIONEERS OF THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM.

On Wednesday, 12th March, the delegates met the employers, who had been previously interviewed in an informal manner by a triumvirate, consisting of Stephens, Murray, and Farr. The meeting was held at Keely's Hotel, corner of Spring and Lonsdale streets, Melbourne.

The employers who took principal part in the discussion were Mr. David Mitchell, Mr. Walter Bell, and Mr. Abraham Linacre. A lapse of forty years discounts the value of extraneous details to the general reader, however interesting the recital might be to the participants in these early, and as current history shows, not unimportant events.

Setting out with the proposition that this reform was the result of a just appreciation of its value by both employer and employed, added to what might appear a little mild intimidation on the part of the latter,



THOMAS SMITH,

MASON, TREASURER OF THE INAUGURAL COMMITTEE OF
THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM IN VICTORIA, 1856.

Born, Leominster Head, England, 1823. Arrived in
Victoria, 1849.

this chapter may be brought to a close by a description of the equitable spirit in which both parties closed the bargain within the walls of the old Queen's Theatre, of Melbourne, on the 26th March, 1856, and from which dates the industrial harmony that has been ever since a marked characteristic in the relations between employers and workmen in the building trades of Victoria.*

How few there are who look beyond to-day and dream of a historic to-morrow! Yet, within that classic old building in Queen-street, Melbourne, now almost in ruins, the lyric and dramatic stars of the British stage of earlier days were wont to delight the heterogeneous elements of humanity which chance had brought together, and which were gradually being resolved into that composite whole known as "society." From its stage was often heard the thrilling sweetness of Catherine Hayes, the irresistible humour of Coppin, and the majestic intonation of the voice of poor G. V. Brooke, who, on that last fatal voyage with his sister, was done to death in the Bay of Biscay, whose waters closed over the ill-fated *London* and her hapless freight of noble souls.

Who among the old veterans of the "fifties" does not remember being moved to tears over the woes of "Elmore," or holding their sides on the way to their lodgings over the eccentricities of his inimitable O'Callaghan?

But on this veritable 26th March, 1856, was to be enacted a "drama of real life," which has since then stood the test of public opinion and merited public approbation in one continuous run of forty years, while it has been reproduced in other parts of the world with

* It is even now common to see many of our foremost builders and contractors seated in the four-in-hand drags which convey the Pioneers to the festival on each recurring celebration.

some sort of chequered recognition no doubt, but still with growing approval—the more so as the simple plot comes to be understood. The chair was occupied by Mr. Abraham Linacre, who stood well in the front rank of the building contractors of our early days, and whose presence that evening in the honourable position assigned to him, has undoubtedly committed his name to posterity with the proud title of one of the Pioneers of the great social achievement of the Eight Hours' system. An immense concourse greeted him on rising to acknowledge the honour the meeting had conveyed in their selection of him as chairman. The class which he represented (the employers) recognised the great importance of the demands which labour had put forth, and as a class had well considered the issues involved.

That some slight misgiving, arising from the fact that there were few of them gifted with the faculty of prophecy, was apparent, and that some division of opinion therefore existed, it was only natural to expect. However the two forces might agree, there existed a third which must be regarded as the final court of appeal, and before whom both of the former now decided to lay the case—public opinion.

The question, "Shall the Eight Hours' system of labour from henceforth prevail in the building trades of Victoria?" is now before that tribunal, and as the operative stonemasons had taken the initiative in the momentous problem, he would call upon their representative to open the discussion. While acclamations rang throughout the densely packed building, forward strode young James Galloway, the Scotch stonemason, and Corresponding Secretary to his trade, and whose serious aspect as he faced the ordeal would suggest the idea



that the masons had selected no *tirailleur* with which to feel the ground, and yet he was only in his twenty-eighth year.

He was well received, and it was soon evident to the audience that a man of more than ordinary force of character, intelligence, and a keen insight into the intricacies of popular debate stood before them. With excellent precision he recounted the arguments which had been advanced by the workmen for improved conditions of existence in a new country. Where the enervating effects of exposure during the extreme heat of summer rendered the day of ten hours of doubtful economic value, and in building up new institutions in their infant colony, he maintained that the principles underlying the fate and fortune of producer and consumer, the employer and the workman, for weal or woe, were identical, and precisely what the community determined upon without reference to the vaunted, but much misunderstood ethical absurdity, entitled the laws of supply and demand.

Galloway concluded an excellent speech by a fervid appeal to the public beyond those immediately interested to exhibit a generous sympathy for the claims of the breadwinners to a share in the delights which accrue from reasonable opportunities of recreation, mental culture, and rest, and with one accord, by the seal of their votes, to lay the foundation of the charter of Australian workmen's freedom. The advocate retired before a generous outburst of enthusiasm—the arrow had hit the mark.

The first resolution was moved by "Tom" Smith, as he is familiarly called, and whose response to the

humorous toast of "Success to Bluestone," in the year 1850, was bearing more abundant fruit than even he expected. It was not, however, a post-prandial speech he was now called on to deliver.

Before him were the public, the arbiters of the fate of the all-important measure he was about to launch; around him, on the curiously transformed stage, were the anxious but resolute scions of capital and labour.

With measured accents he read the following:—

"That this meeting is of opinion that the time has arrived when the system of eight hours per day should be introduced into the building trades, and that the laborious nature of the trade, and continued exposure to the excessive heat of the climate, loudly call for such a reform,"

The motion was seconded by the whilom Chartist and propounder of the scheme, James Stephens, and supported by a carpenter named Best, and other members of the building trades, some of whom have since joined the majority, but whose names, as well as those who are still in the flesh, will be kindly remembered, not only on this fortieth celebration, but on all successive anniversaries, when their disciples in the movement toast "The Day we Celebrate." Their names are Jephthah Freeman (mason), Joseph Avery (bricklayer), J. Boyd (sawyer), T. Laver (sawyer), and A. Forsyth, a timber merchant, who vigorously replied to an individual bearing the half-Dutch cognomen of "Cox," who whined for "more time." Mr. Linacre declared the motion carried unanimously, and the "guinea stamp" of public approval was there and then burned in indelible characters on the new standard of Australian workmen—EIGHT HOURS' LABOUR, EIGHT HOURS' RECREATION, EIGHT HOURS' REST.*

* The origin of this motto is almost unanimously ascribed to Dr. Embling, who weaved the historic words at a subsequent public meeting held in the same building.

The second resolution was confided to Galloway and Tom Smith, which set forth—

“ That the foregoing principle take effect from April 21st next.”

On this an amendment was moved, with the object of delaying the operation of the measure for three months instead of one. This the chairman, as one of the largest employers of labour in the building trades, opposed, as he considered the conferences which had been held, and the present exposition of the question, predetermined its early application in the event of the substantive motion being ratified at the bar of public opinion. The response of the audience to the motion for the adoption of the 21st of April following as the natal day of labour's emancipation from the thralldom of “the good old Scotch rule,” was also unanimous and enthusiastic. Intense manifestations of joy followed cheers for the chairman, hundreds press forward to grasp his hand, employers and workmen exchange congratulations. James Stephens beholds the first fruits of that organic system, destined to make his own name historic, and which he intuitively gathered on the bleak mountain side in Wales from the lips of Henry Vincent—the Eight Hours was won !

The names of the contractors who were either present at this meeting or the conferences which preceded it, as far as existing records furnish, are—Mr. Abraham Linacre, Mr. John Holtom, Mr. Walter Bell, Mr. David Mitchell, Mr. Samuel Amess, and Mr. George Cornwell.





CHAPTER IV.

PROGRESS AND PERMANENT ADOPTION OF THE SYSTEM—
Organisation of Trades—Plasterers—Bricklayers
—Carpenters and Joiners—Slaters—Painters—
Plumbers—Coachmakers—Smoko—First Organ-
ising Committee—The Demonstration Committee
—Charitable Institutions Represented Thereon—
21ST APRIL, 1856, Memorable Midday March—
The *Herald's* Prophecy—The Blockhead—Marcus
Clarke—Charles Jardine Don—Preparations for a
Fete—Jack Craft and the Crest—Story of the
Eight Hours' Flag—Galloway and the Blue
Blanket—The First Australian Flag of Democracy
—The Eight Hours' Family.

It will now be apparent, as I stated at the outset, that the acquisition of the Eight Hours in New Zealand, New South Wales, and Victoria was generally the result of a consensus of opinion on its own merits, emanating from all the interests concerned—the public, the contractors or middlemen, and the workmen; the case of New Zealand perhaps proving an exception, as far as one of the factors to the transaction was concerned, *i.e.*, there being no public to consult.

No Trades' Unions existed in New Zealand; it is improbable there could have been more than one in New South Wales, and one only in Victoria, both of these

latter being masons' lodges, and in both cases their members, instead of formulating a demand, preferred the case in an unofficial manner to the employers, relying rather upon the reasonableness of their claim than upon any latent power which as Unionists they might possess to enforce their behest by any attempt at intimidation.

The employers, on the other hand, limited in number, were all men who had risen from the ranks of labour, and were equally anxious with the operatives to lay the axe at the root of old-world prejudices and abuses, while yet the demon of ruthless, blood-imbibing competition had not begun to unfold its hideous and contaminating visage in the sunny south.

The time and the men were equally suited to the circumstances; ten years later and the problem would have become Utopian. To give permanence in the earlier stages of the movement, and to stimulate its growth into a system, it now became necessary to organise the various sections of the building trades in accordance with the purpose expressed at the meeting of the 26th March.

Up to this date the masons' was the only associated body, and it may, therefore, be allegorically said that it was the *Adam*, and the Eight Hours' movement the *Eve*, of all other industrial associations in Victoria, as the following facts prove. Chronologically the matter stands thus:—

1st March.—Society of Operative Plasterers established. Bricklayers hold a meeting at the Belvidere Hotel, John Spracklyn in the chair, at which it was resolved to support the resolutions carried at the Collingwood lodge of masons on 18th February. (Bricklayers' Society not yet formed.)

5th March.—Masons' Central Lodge remove from the Supreme Court Hotel to the Belvidere ; hold first meeting of lodge there, and confirm the resolutions of the Collingwood branch *re* Eight Hours, on the motion of James Stephens.

12th and 19th March.—General meetings of masons held at Central Lodge, Belvidere Hotel.

26th March.—Great public meeting held at Queen's Theatre.

2nd April.—Meeting of carpenters at the Belvidere ; resolutions passed to support the action of the Masons in the Eight Hours' movement. (No Society yet formed.)

7th April.—Meeting of Plasterers' Society, Archibald Fulton in the chair, at Belvidere Hotel. Freeman Manuel moved, "That the Operative Plasterers of Melbourne consider that eight hours per day is sufficient time for us to work, and we pledge ourselves to carry out this design with the utmost vigour." (Carried). Benjamin Douglass moved, "That this meeting pledge itself, both as men and employers,* on and after the 21st inst., to carry out the Eight Hours' system, and to co-operate with the other mechanics in the building trade." Carried unanimously. Messrs. Washington, Price, and Manuel were appointed a deputation to meet the other trades in conference.

8th April.—Meeting of bricklayers, held at the Belvidere Hotel, John Spracklyn in the chair. John Stanton moved, "That this meeting, being fully sensible of the benefits of a reduction in the hours of labour, resolves to initiate a society of operative bricklayers to facilitate the desired object;" the motion was declared

*By this it would appear employers were represented at the meeting—another significant fact.

carried unanimously. Joseph Gillett moved, and Joseph Barbour seconded, "That the society shall consist of operative bricklayers, to be managed by a committee to be elected by the members who now enrol their names, such committee to be elected forthwith;" this resolution was carried and committee elected. Samuel Storey moved, and John Bishop Griggs seconded, "That the committee be empowered to frame a code of rules and submit them for approval at a meeting to be held 15th inst." (Carried.) Meeting of Masons' Society at Belvidere, Thomas Smith in the chair. James Galloway moved, and James Stephens seconded, "That in the opinion of this meeting it is indispensably necessary that they (the building trades) should be in a perfectly organised condition before the 21st inst., for the purpose of acting in concert for bringing into operation the great movement." (Carried.) Moved by James Stephens, and seconded by John Gration, "That the winter months commence on the 21st April, and the summer months on the 21st August." (Carried.) James Galloway and Alexander Todd were appointed to the Delegate Conference of the building trades.

11th April.—Great public meeting at Queen's Theatre, the Mayor of Melbourne, John Thomas Smith, Esq., presiding, when resolutions in support of the movement were submitted before a crowded audience, and carried amidst the greatest enthusiasm, the speakers on this occasion being Dr. Thomas Embling, J. G. Burt, Esq., M.L.A., and Messrs. Joseph Osborne, Wm. Taylor, — Boyd, and Robert Miller. The same pessimistic individual, rejoicing in the semi-foreign cognomen of "Cox," who appeared at the meeting on 26th March, was announced by the chairman, and endeavoured to

interpose his gloomy forebodings, but was obliged to retire before the badinage incidental to unpopular orators.* At this meeting the mayor expressed his intention of offering a prize of £20 for the best essay on the Eight Hours.

14th April.—Meeting of master slaters held at the Birmingham Hotel, Smith-street, Collingwood, when it was unanimously resolved that on and after 21st inst. “both masters and men should only work eight hours per day.”

16th April.—The Melbourne Progressive Society of Carpenters and Joiners, established by Thomas Walter Vine, Charles B. Vine, and Robert Miller.

19th April.—Meeting of masters and operative slaters held at the Olive Branch Hotel, Latrobe-street, Mr. Dunger in the chair, when it was moved by Mr. Nelson, and seconded by Mr. Entwisle, that the Eight Hours’ system be adopted, the masters and men leaving off at the same hour. (Carried.) The operative slaters then formed their Society. The painters and plumbers, acting in concert, met at the Cross Keys Hotel, Russell-street, and resolved to support the movement. The Coachbuilders met at the Temperance Hall and took similar action. The following advertisement appeared this day in the daily press:—

PUBLIC NOTICES.

“The delegates appointed by the different committees connected with the building trades, hereby give notice that it has been unanimously resolved at their meetings

* It was at this meeting that Dr. Embling, in speaking to the first resolution used the following words, “I wish it to be prominently before the public, employed and employers, how long a man could healthily labour, and he believed the twenty-four hours should be divided into three equal portions—one for labour, the other for recreation, and the third for rest.” Hence the motto of the Eight Hours’ trades.

to commence the Eight Hours' system on Monday, 21st inst., by beginning work at 7 a.m., and leaving of at 5 p.m., deducting two hours for meals, till 23rd August in each year, and the remaining months from 6 till 4. The hours of meals during the winter months to be—breakfast, from 9 to 10; dinner, from 1 to 2; and from 8 to 9 and 12 to 1 in the summer.”*

The representatives of the various trades thus formed into an Executive Committee comprised the following:—

Masons.—James Stephens, James G. Galloway, Alexander Todd, Thomas Smith.

Bricklayers.—John B. Griggs, John Spracklyn, John Stanton.

Carpenters and Joiners.—Thomas Walter Vine, Charles B. Vine, Robert Miller.

Plasterers.— — Washington, — Price, Benjamin Douglass, Freeman Manuel.

Painters.—Thomas Charge, — Davis.

The above also formed a Demonstration Committee, and on which it is probable there were others still amongst us who served, but from the loss of almost every record, all efforts to chronicle the complete list of names have been unavailing. The officers of this Committee were—Thomas Walter Vine (President), A. Forsyth (Treasurer), and Charles B. Vine (Secretary). One of the resolutions of this committee provided—“That the proceeds of the inaugural *fête*, intended to be

* It may here be mentioned that a custom prevailed under the long ten-hour system of providing a “spell,” or cessation of work for a quarter of an hour, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and again at three in the afternoon, which was called “smoko.” It was on one of these occasions, in midsummer of 1855, when the heat was intense, that James Stephens first spoke of the Eight Hours' system, and which opportunities he always took advantage of until he carried the first resolution of the principle in the Collingwood Lodge of the Masons' Society.

held in celebration of the acquisition of the Eight Hours, shall be equally divided between the Melbourne Hospital and the Benevolent Asylum."

In view, therefore, of this resolution, it was further decided to invite representatives from the two institutions named, and which resulted in the addition to the committee of the two Secretaries of these charities—Mr. Grant for the Hospital and Mr. Haines for the Benevolent Asylum, the latter also sending its Treasurer, Mr. Tankard, of the well-known temperance hotel bearing his name.

Enclosures for out-door amusements were few in those days, the most accessible and popular, if indeed not the only one, being "Cremorne" Gardens, on the banks of the Yarra. Here the Committee decided to hold the opening celebration on the 21st April, but the gardens being previously engaged for a benefit tendered to Mr. Percival Scott, the lessee, "under the patronage of General M'Arthur," that part of the programme had to be altered. So we will leave the Committee to make other arrangements.

The day itself has at last arrived, the glorious 21ST APRIL, 1856.

" Yet still we love our April,
For it aids us to bequeath
A gift more fair than blossoms rare,
More sweet than budded wreath,
Our children's tend'rest memories,
'Round Austral April grow ;
Twas the month we won our freedom, boys,
Just (forty) years ago."

A prominent and brilliant young politician, in the course of a speech at an Eight Hours' banquet, once said, "The Eight Hours' at its birth owed nothing to Parliament, and still less to the press." Yet the speaker

was a member of both institutions, while the writer of that charming little measure I have quoted was also a pressman, the lovable, warm-hearted, "literary genius of Australia,"* the late Marcus Clarke. That the idyllic sweetness of his poem (written for the Anniversary Committee, 1876), should be a pungent sarcasm on some pseudo prophet of his own order of a score of years before it is probable he never dreamt—yet such it was.

At an early hour on the morning of the 21st, according to arrangement, the now emancipated craftsmen mustered in force, to the number of seven or eight hundred men, at a rendezvous close to the works of the Melbourne University, then in progress of erection.

A procession was formed, of which Thomas Glaister, a mason, was appointed marshal. To the masons the place of honour was assigned, and as the members of that body who were engaged at the works of the University, together with their spirited employer, Mr. Linacre, formed what might be called the "key to the historic position," which the whole of the building trades in common enjoyed that day, I will here chronicle their names, as far as I have been able to learn from amongst the survivors of that sterling body of unionists, viz.:—William Beardall, foreman; — Glencross, time-keeper; James Stephens, James Galloway, Jacob Ford, Thomas Topping, Samuel Craven, George Sparkes, David Halliday, Alexander Todd, John Yewdall, John Stevenson, David Hughes, William Thompson, David Clarke, and Joseph Sykes.

As the contractor for the new Houses of Parliament, Mr. Cornish, as also Mr. Holmes, the contractor for the

* The late Marcus Clarke was thus designated by **Mark Twain**.

new Western Market buildings, had each persistently declined to accede to the decision of their fellow-contractors, the operatives, and the public, a deputation of two from each trade was appointed to wait upon these gentlemen on the morning of the 21st, before the procession should appear in front of their works, as an evidence of the new order of things, and from which it was not intended to recede. Neither contractor could be found, so the last effort to bring the obtuse masters into line failed. The procession, headed by the premier society, flying a Union Jack and borne by Jacob Ford, with a small flag on which three "eights" were fashioned, comprised all the banners and emblems displayed in this memorable mid-day march.

The pioneers moved along Madeline and Elizabeth-streets, calling at all buildings *en route* which were observed in course of erection; thence to the new structure of De Graves' Mills, of which Thomas Smith was foreman, and continuing their course along Flinders-street to the Western Market buildings, where the men were discovered working, but on the sight of their comrades in the procession they immediately threw down their tools and joined the ranks.

Cheers were given as each new accession of strength threw its weight into the movement. On and on the ever-increasing pageant marched, through Little Collins-street to the site of the new Parliament Houses, where the augmented numbers received their final contingent. All the men employed by Mr. Cornish abandoning the "banker"* for the procession, which finally wended its way to the

* The stone on which a mason places the one he is dressing.

Belvidere Hotel, where the reports of the delegates, who had failed to see Cornish and Holmes, were received, and provision at once made for the sustainment of the employes at these works, now idle through their independent action. The achievement of the Eight Hours' system to the working classes of Victoria was now complete, requiring only the indomitable spirit of the pioneers, employers, operatives, and the public to generously recognise the true advantages of its consolidation, undisturbed by false and fleeting ideas of economy, and uninfluenced by cupidity and arrogance. How well these ideas have been carried out, may the patriotic members of the fortieth anniversary, whose names we are proud of to-day, live long to tell.

The eventful proceedings of this inaugural day were brought to a close by a banquet at the Belvidere, at which Thomas Smith presided, and which was attended by a goodly company of legislators, members of council, including His Worship the Mayor—since known to fame as the Australian Whittington, in reference to the number of times he filled the civic chair of Melbourne—professional gentlemen of all grades of society, employers, and workmen. On the following morning the public breakfast tables were supplied with the usual digestive literature, amongst which a leading article in a Melbourne morning newspaper was dished up hot. A few slices will serve our appetite :—

“THE PROCESSION AND ITS MORAL.” *

“We dare say that in six or eight months' time we shall read in the London papers a most exaggerated and alarming account of the procession yesterday through the

* Melbourne morning *Herald*, 22nd April, 1856.

streets of Melbourne. We are of sufficient consequence now to have penny-a-liners stationed on the spot in the shape of 'Special Correspondents,' and we have no doubt that they will consider the demonstration alluded to a perfect godsend for their purpose." . . .

"Why, the procession must have been a scheme of the contractors—a deep trick, intended to advertise to the world that there is such a scarcity of workmen in Melbourne that those who are here have it all their own way; that the golden age has come at last, in which nobody shall do more labour than amounts to pleasant exercise; and that we are about to establish here a Utopian happiness, which all the strikes of Lancashire and the bloody barricades of Paris could never conquer." . . .

"Wages were recovering themselves, provisions, clothing, fuel, and rent were becoming cheaper, and the working classes had a fair chance of getting on again and keeping it all to themselves, *when some stupid, mischievous blockhead—the worst enemy they ever had in this colony—set this agitation going, and the result will be that the whole fabric of their prosperity will be blown to the winds.*"

Oh! illustrious prophet—A Daniel! The block-heads have kept both the population and the Eight Hours' "all to themselves," and more—they assisted by taxation for years after to enable others to come and enjoy the fruits of their achievement, so that from a quarter of a million of a population in 1856, we have since increased to nearly a million and a quarter; and yet 'their prosperity' is "blown" by the testimony of the press of to-day; and amidst the waving of the newer



CHARLES B. VINE

(SON OF T. W. VINE), CARPENTER, SECRETARY OF THE
INAUGURAL COMMITTEE OF THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM
IN VICTORIA, 1856.

Born in London, 1828. Arrived in Victoria, 1853.

silken emblems which each recurring Eight Hours' Anniversary brings forth.

" Yet still we love our April,
For it aids us to bequeath
A gift more fair than blossoms rare,
More sweet than budded wreath."

(*Marcus Clarke's Ode on 20th Anniversary.*)

THE EIGHT HOURS' MILLENNIUM.*

" Thanks to the moderation of the contractors, and perhaps the exigencies of the Government, the ' Eight Hours' system ' has achieved a *momentary triumph*.

" To treat the matter more seriously, we do sincerely hope that, now the working classes have achieved their object, they will not delude themselves with the idea *that they can long retain it*, unless they can confine the knowledge of their circumstances to themselves, or shut out the rest of the world from access to these shores."

Oh ! magician of the morning. Oh ! marvellous philosopher !—A Diogenes. And still :—

" Our children's tend'rest memories
'Round Austral April grow ;
'Twas the month we won our freedom, boys,
Just (forty) years ago."

(*Marcus Clarke's Ode, 20th Anniversary.*)

While the same writer about the following year was still persisting in his unholy crusade against the Eight Hours, he was replied to by another of the " Block-heads,"—the late Charles Jardine Don, † the stonemason, and another Scotch exponent of the value of the " momentary triumph." Speaking at a great open-air

* Melbourne morning *Herald*, 23rd April, 1856.

† Mr. Don sat for the constituency of Collingwood in the Legislative Assembly; the first workingman representative to enter the Victorian Parliament.

public meeting on the Eight Hours' extension at Williamstown, he said,

"How is the problem of the greatest possible amount of happiness for the greatest number to be effected?"

"I will tell you. By regulating the number of hours a day a man shall work in a day, sufficient to feed, clothe, and educate the population, and with a due regard to the advantages in which we should share by the introduction of labour-saving machines, we should also prevent the pernicious tendency to over-production, which has too often proved disastrous to many of the great manufacturing centres of the world.

"Look upon the toiling millions of the world, who lay the foundations of all physical, intellectual, and moral prosperity. What scheme should be left untried to raise up the industrial masses of this and every other country? And what scheme stands so great a chance of success as the Eight Hours' movement? Political economy starts with the proposition, that labour is the source of all wealth—that to labour we owe the food, clothes, and shelter necessary to man. Look around and see the mighty deeds that labour has accomplished, from the time earth was a wilderness until now, when the vine and myrtle have replaced the thistle and the briar.

"Look at the towns and cities of the earth, at the mercantile navies breasting the billows of every sea; view the works that labour has done, and I think you will agree with me that, after all, the labourer is the only being worth caring about. If ever in any country proofs existed of his value, it is in this one. Look!

[Here Mr. Don directed the attention of his audience across the waters of the Bay, in the direction of the lights of the city of Melbourne.]

"Look at yonder city, illuminated by its magic lamps, its windows glittering with wealth, a city with palaces worthy of kings, and temples worthy of gods, which labour has placed there in the short space of a quarter of a century. Twenty-five years ago, where now the voices of the most accomplished vocalists resound, the wild howl of the savage corroboree or the wind in the wilderness was alone heard, and by whom has this change been effected? By the rich, the wealthy, the kid-gloved, fine-handed gentry? No; by the horny-handed son of toil, and after all that he has done here, and ready as he is to do more, would you have him work until his heart breaks under the burning sun of this colony? *Yet the question upon which depends the future happiness of these men was impugned by some editors of papers, who understood as much of the real merits of that question as a sucking-calf does of Euclid's elements.*

"He trusted, however, that the time had passed away when such men as these could come forward and dictate to them, and the voice of the people should prevail as the voice of God."

Although the auspicious 21st April closed amid rejoicing, which might be considered sufficient to signalise the event, the Demonstration Committee was not to be baulked in the big show they had in contemplation, and redoubled their efforts, finally resolving to hold the inaugural *fête* on Whit Monday, 12th May, at the Cremorne Gardens. Arrangements were consequently made with Mr. Percival Scott for the due fulfilment of the programme which appears in another part of this work, and which in those days was looked upon as a great effort, the martial ardour of the race being stirred by the mimic reproduction of the "taking of the Malakoff" and the "bombardment of Sebastopol."

The several new societies were busily engaged making their own arrangements, apart from the general Committee; and one individual, possessing the most appropriate name of "Jack Craft,"* was driving a brisk business.

The Belvidere at this time was an important hostel. There were few of more striking architectural pretensions in Melbourne, and it was scarcely finished when, through the accident of their new combinations on

* Jack Craft was a well-known banner painter of the period—a sort of genius in his way, and endowed with idiosyncracies, which at times caused no little amusement. Being instructed during this year (1856) to design and execute the decorations of the large new window of the "Albion Hotel," Bourke-street, and on which he was requested to embody the Australian crest, as a special feature, he made a journey, accompanied by a friend, to the Zoological Gardens, to sketch the kangaroo and the emu, as he had never before seen these important factors in the Australian Arms. By the time Craft and his friend arrived at the Gardens, conviviality had affected the artistic vision, the sketches subsequently puzzling the artist himself. In due course the work was finished, and on the screen, which had obscured the operator while working, being removed, it was discovered that the proportions of the terminal appendages of the creatures had been reversed—the emu being drawn with a graceful flowing tail of ample folds and feathers, while the kangaroo was relegated to a stump.

the Eight Hours' question, the trades laid siege to its capacious meeting rooms. The interval between the 21st April and the *fete* appointed to take place on Whit Monday, witnessed the most enthusiastic scenes, as the several trades carried out a generous rivalry in preparation. Nightly meetings—far into the night it is suspected some sat—were held, disposing of the duties to be allotted to each, selling tickets, preparing emblems and banners, and the hundred and one matters which demand attention to ensure the success of an outdoor parade.

It was late one night, all the societies had already adjourned, when three persons were observed silently transacting some business in the room allotted to the Demonstration Committee. One who was seated at the head of the large table in the centre of the room was in appearance well past the mid-day of life; but in the lines of whose clean-shaven and strongly-marked face a physiognomist would observe a firmness of character depicted in the closely compressed lips and restless blue eye—so frequently the index to an active mind. His lithe but well-knit frame indicated endurance rather than great physical strength. He was engaged appending his signature to some papers, which he dashed off rapidly as if anxious to leave off for the night.

His companions were both young men, apparently not more than half the age of the former. One of these, a broad-shouldered, square-built man, with keen grey eyes and brown hair and beard, and as far as appearances justified the assumption, was the embodiment of muscular strength. He had just risen from his seat, and hurriedly depositing some papers in his pocket, took up his hat and was about to retire when he was accosted by the Secretary, whom the third party proved to be, as,

closing his portfolio, he too stood up to leave the room. "You might walk our way home, Jem; it won't be much out of your road," said the young scribe, "and we could talk over the sports programme."

"Eh! what?" said the elder one at the head of the table; "you both going before we decide upon that last resolution concerning the flag?" and the old man shrugged his shoulders. "Mind, we'll never be ready, and a flag is not designed and made in a day."

"Yes, but we've agreed to leave that matter to you, and as I have no skill in heraldry I could be of no assistance—rather in the way, I fancy."

The accent of the speaker indicated his nationality. It was James Galloway, the Scottish stonemason, and Organising General Secretary of the movement.*

"But," he added, "I don't mind telling you the story of the most historic trades banner extant, and which might suggest something worth while copying—that is, my dear Mr. President, if you don't intend to sleep at the Belvidere, which I certainly do not. You might very well leave off now and walk along with C. B. and myself, as they say in my country—

'A gaun fit is aye gettin' '†

"Mr. President" was no other than Thomas Walter Vine, the Chairman of the Demonstration Committee. He smiled lightly as Galloway indulged in his native idiom, and carefully placing the papers in a peculiar-looking pocket-book, bound in white sheepskin, which he tied with a small piece of tape for greater security, carelessly

* It is necessary to distinguish between the Organising Secretary of the Eight Hours' movement, James Galloway, and the Secretary of the Demonstration Committee, C. B. Vine.

† *I.e.*, a person continually walking (going) is always picking (getting) something up.—*Old Scottish Saying.* †

remarked, "This may be a memento of the past one day. Oh, well, Jem, no matter if we are a bit late; it's in a good cause. I'm proud of being at its birth; I cannot hope to see its maturity."

"So far as that goes there's no certainty for any of us," said Galloway.

"Come, come," said the younger Vine, "no croaking. Why, we are only bursting into a new life. Eight Hours for ever, and a plague on the *Herald!* The miserable weed will wither and die, while the tree *we* have planted will flourish in the sunshine of security." The three friends had now left the hotel, and were quietly strolling, rather than hastening homewards. Galloway had just lighted his pipe when the Chairman addressed him:

"And now, son of the Gael, we'll have your story if it's not too long, as I'm getting tired. One reservation only. If you expect me to adopt your ideas of a flag, I'm wedded to colours; I'll have nothing but national colours in our glorious emblem."

"Thus far, and no farther, or I'll not 'pipe,' as you say on board of your British bull-dogs. You must hear my story before you talk of design or colours," said Galloway, as he laid his brawny hand on the old man's shoulder. "Then," he continued, "you can exercise your own sweet will on your 'glorious emblem,' as you call it."

"A crown, father, it's a Scotch yarn," chimed in young Vine.

"And all the better at that," said Galloway, and no British standard that ever flew is fit to patch the 'BLUE BLANKET OF EDINBURGH.'"

A loud laugh from his companions at this sally, in which the speaker himself joined, had scarcely subsided as he continued: "An old mate of mine, named Willie Ferguson, called on me some short time before I left Edinburgh, and invited me to accompany him to the Trades' Maiden Hospital, in Argyle Square, as he had obtained permission from the Convener of Trades to see that old relic. He informed me it had only been once unfurled within the last 20 years, as the remnants of the old guilds are now scarce in the old country—the watch-makers and jewellers, I think, being the only one surviving, and as long as one guild holds together, it has the exclusive privilege of bearing that banner to the rallying point of the trades of Edinburgh. The flag was originally presented to the Craft Guilds of Edinburgh by James III. of Scotland, in 1482, and was afterwards renewed by his Queen—Margaret.

Some writers called the period "the golden age," but I have never been able to tell why it was so called, for banners in those days were not given to commemorate a social achievement like ours, but to fight under; and whenever that banner was unfurled, depend upon it, 'twas not to celebrate an Eight Hours' Day, but to bolster up the feudal aristocracy, that kept three-fourths of the country in serfdom.

However, it was the rallying standard of the guilds; and under it the crafts mustered on the Borough Moor, at the command of James IV., and from thence marched to their destruction on the field of Flodden in 1513. The flag, much damaged, however, was preserved by a faithful few, and ultimately restored to the trades of Edinburgh, whose property in succession it has become, and tradition holds to this day that it is the privilege, nay,

the imperative duty of the craftsmen of Edinburgh to rally beneath this old flag, in the event of the liberties of the city, the privileges of the trades, or the life of the sovereign being in danger."

It is uncomfortable in the last degree to tell a story and smoke at the same time. One can't do it and give satisfaction to one's audience, and James Galloway was no exception to the rule, so he allowed his pipe to go out during the graphic recital of the foregoing, but suddenly recollecting the forced abstinence he had observed—for he loved his pipe—he struck another match and concluded thus, "Now as to the colours of the "blue blanket," the name itself suggests the colours of the "field" of the flag, and its "quarterings" are the white saltere of St. Andrew in the upper staff corner, with a royal crown above, and a thistle below the *chevrons*, and two white scrolls or ribbons waving on its upper and lower folds, setting forth the mandate of the craft guilds in the quaint characters and spelling of the period, the words being, "*Fear God, honour the King with a long and prosperous reign,*" "*and we that is tradds shall ever pray for the defence of His sacred majestie's royal persone till death.*"

"An historic relic truly," said Charles Vine.

"Ay! but the colours, my dear Galloway," queried the old man, "what did you say? Was there no colour of the rose anywhere about it? Blue and white only."

"Rose, indeed! Ah! ah! ah! Well, yes, there was a wee bit, as far as the brush of the thistle goes; therefore, my Saxon stickler, be happy, you have the colours as you want them—red, white, and blue."

"Oh, well," observed Charles Vine, laughing, "what matter about colours? Everybody knows you can no more get a Scotchman away from the blue than you

could persuade a native of the Emerald Isle to abandon the green ; so, father, you may make up your mind ; the Caledonians will expect a blue field at least, for since James I. of England and VI. of Scotland laid the Cross of St. George over the saltere of St. Andrew, on the azure field of Scotland, heraldic designers have always kept a large pot of blue paint ready mixed in anticipation of orders from all sources whatsoever. Why, even the 'heather belles' have sung for the last three hundred years :—

Oh, dear, what can the matter be ?

Johnnie's so long at the fair.

He promised to buy me a bunch o' *blue* ribbons

To tie up my bonnie brown hair.

He promised to bring me a basket o' posies,

A garland o' lilies, a garland o' roses,

And a little straw hat to set off the *blue* ribbons,

That tie up my bonnie brown hair."

"Yes, and by the piper of Ballochmyle, they'll sing it for three hundred years more," said the Gallic mason. "But," he continued, addressing the veteran chairman, who appeared as if indulging in some abstract train of thought, "you said something last night about Peter Lalor's flag at the Eureka Stockade. What was it like, general ?"

"Strange," replied Vine, senior, "I was just thinking of the coincidence as you asked me the question. It bore some resemblance to your blue blanket, having a blue field and a white cross, only *minus* the crown and the thistle ; but it would never do, much as I revere the first standard of Australian democracy, to copy too closely the flag of revolt in the emblem of our joyful and bloodless revolution."

By this time the three men had arrived in front of Mr. Vine's residence.

“However,” he continued, “I’m glad we had a talk over the matter, as we may—nay, we shall bequeath this flag to posterity with honour; and now my mind is made up, the colours shall be—RED, WHITE, AND BLUE.”

“And the design and motto, father?” enquired his son, as if anxious to know the old man’s mind.”

“On that, I require no assistance; one word will best describe both—original.”

“Good,” said Galloway, laughing heartily at the perspicuity of the President; “no doubt we’ll see the capture of a slaver, or the sinking of a pirate, or Napoleon and Lowe enjoying a game of crib, while a certain young sailor on board of one of the guard ships lying off the ‘Helena’ is rehearsing Nelson’s advice to his midshipmen—‘Fear God, honour the King, and hate a Frenchman as you hate the devil.’”

“Jem, you are facetious to-night, but I’m not to be drawn; you’ll see my idea in good time; so, until to-morrow—adieu.”

At this the friends shook hands and parted, father and son entering the house, and Galloway, who had just replenished his pipe, struck another match, buttoned up his coat, and strolled homeward.

Mr. Vine was the proud father of three interesting daughters, Caroline, Elizabeth, and Isabella—interesting they must have been—they are all married now; but at the time of which I am writing the Misses Vine gamboled in the fine morning of life beneath the parental roof. Forty years of gathering, however, by that old ravager, Time, has bereft them of their honoured father, and a thousand miles of ocean separates them from their brother Charles, the companion of their childhood; but although the spectre has scattered his frosts over the

once fair forms of *the makers of the Eight Hours' flag*, he has not impaired their memory of the events of their youth, nor robbed them of the pride which they inadvertently acquired, in the distinction bestowed on their father's household, and which is called "The Eight Hours' Family."

The morning following the interview with Galloway, Mr. Vine and his daughter Isabella met at breakfast, the latter looking somewhat perplexed, as her eyes rested on a large drawing still attached to the drawing-board her father had just placed on a side table, but concerning which he up to the present had maintained a strict reserve. Isabella was the youngest of the three daughters, and was looked upon by the rest of the family as the prime confidant of her father. It was evident, as she sat gazing on the pencilling, that Isabella knew something beforehand about the drawing which she now saw for the first time. Her brother had told her, and her curiosity being now aroused she approached the matter gently with the aged draughtsman, who was engaged in the dual occupation of eating his breakfast and scanning the morning *Age*.

"Charley told me, father," said Miss Vine, "that you were going to some of the large drapers this morning, and he thought you might want me to assist you in your purchases."

"Eh! what? To buy bunting?" and the old man laughed. "What would you know about bunting? Fiddlesticks."

Miss Vine inwardly agreed with her parent as to her ignorance of the nautical material. She would assuredly have understood all about *moire*, or sarsanet, or muslin, or cashmere; but—bunting—

“Now look here, Isabel,” and the old man placed the drawing-board in an upright position on the table. “This is a drawing I have made of the proposed Eight Hours’ banner—the banner of the Australian system of Eight Hours’ labour—the details are simplicity itself; the extreme length of the flag is 17 feet 2 inches, and the depth is 9 feet, including the red border which frames the blue field on each side of the square, by a width of 1 foot 6 inches; the motto as you see, ‘EIGHT HOURS’ labour, Eight Hours’ recreation, Eight Hours’ rest,’ to be 12-inch white letters, sewn on in horizontal lines as here shown. Now do you think you understand my plan, eh?”

“Well, yes, father,” replied the young lady, with a slight trepidity of voice and gesture, “but I should have thought you would surely have decided on silk as the material for so important an emblem, to say nothing of the emblazonry setting forth a muddle of fiery dragons, lions rampant, or perhaps a lady with a fire brigade man’s helmet on her head, and in her hand——.”

“Tut, tut, nonsense, my girl; I intend this banner to be handed down to those who shall maintain our glorious principles, therefore it must be made of lasting material and standing colours. Bunting, my child—bunting will last when your silk is in dust. Red, white, and blue won’t ‘run,’ and for the motto—well, while the English language is spoken the humblest may read as much of its true significance as the scholar.”

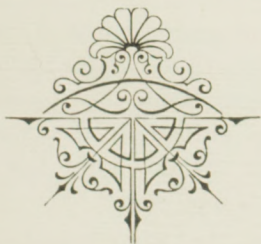
Here the veteran enthusiast put down his drawing board, and putting on his coat and hat prepared to leave home. He was anxious, however, for his daughter’s approval, as he consulted her on all matters that interested him.

“What do you think of my idea?” he inquired.

“It will certainly effect all you say, father,” said Isabella; “it will be durable, and I think it will look very well.”

“Ah! good; well I'll send you home the bunting from Buckley's, and some navy thread; get Elizabeth and Caroline to help you, as it must be ready before Whit Monday, and who knows but you may make a name for yourself as proud as Queen Eleanor, who, it is said, worked the celebrated Bayeaux tapestry.”

These three ladies faithfully complied with their father's injunctions, the result being the Eight Hours' banner of Victoria, of which the coloured frontispiece to this work is an illustration.





CHAPTER V.

THE ACORN—Building of Parliament Houses—Cornish Gives Way—Holmes Concedes—Whit Monday, 1856—First Procession of Trades to Old Cremorne—The Cause of Charity—Life Governors to Charitable Institutions—"Taverns"—The Eight Hours' League—Extraordinary Advance of the System—Vice-Regal Patronage—The First Anniversary—Benjamin Douglass—

ADVANCE THE EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM.

"Behold the little acorn, pushing up to the surface, its leaves spreading forth to catch the gentle air, its roots sucking nourishment from the unnoticed earth, its branches spreading abroad in the majesty of life; it would extend until cut down by the shipmaker, and launched upon the boiling surf."*

The phantom vessels of King Alfred and the "Golden Age" have, like the mirage in which they floated, sunk beneath the horizon of solid facts; and the Eight Hours' acorn which germinated in New Zealand and New South Wales, negotiated for a time but a hardy and unfruitful existence in these colonies. It was reserved for the fructifying soil of their younger sister, Victoria, to nurse

* Extract from C. J. Don's speech on the Eight Hours' question.

the seedling, stimulate its vigorous growth, and ultimately "*launch*" the full rigged-ship upon the "*boiling surf*." It must, however, be allowed that the circumstances surrounding the mother colony and New Zealand, when they seized the opportunity to implant the germ amongst them, and to warm it into life, were unfavourable, and their pluck in the delicate and difficult task, as well as their re-acquisition and protection of the movement as a system in later years, deserves the highest commendations from all who appreciate the blessing it has proved to be to toiling humanity.

As much might probably be written of their local achievements in connection with the movement in each of these colonies as I am now writing in the form of a *souvenir* of the fortieth anniversary of the system in Victoria.

Following to a conclusion the story I have ventured upon, it will be observed that the principal barriers on and after the 21st April were Mr. Cornish, the builder of the new Parliament Houses, and Mr. Holmes, the contractor for the Western Market works.

Within the first fortnight, however, both of these employers gave way; in the case of the Parliament House, the Government pressed Mr. Cornish to continue the works (for which he tendered, while the agitation for the Eight Hours was proceeding, while other tenderers provided for the contingency) and subsequently indemnifying him in a sum of £1761 for his estimated loss through the introduction of the Eight Hours' system. The bulk of evidence given before a board appointed by the Government to deal with Cornish's case affirmed that, under the new arrangements, viz., the surrender by the

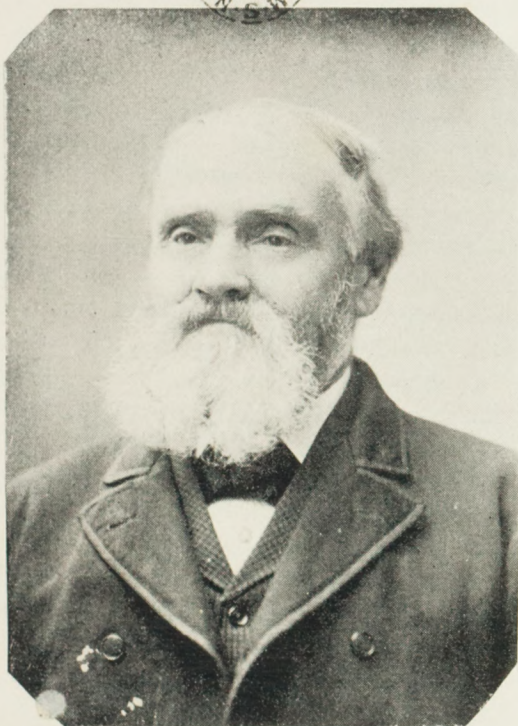
workmen of an equivalent in wages to meet the difference in time, they (the contractors) had sustained no loss.

E. G. Fitzgibbon, Esq., then Town Clerk of Melbourne (now Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works), certified that "works now in hand (5th August, 1856) for the corporation are being done at prices *lower than those paid prior to the movement.*" So ended, for that time at least, all opposition to the introduction of the Eight Hours' system into Victoria. A coincidence is perhaps worth recording, *i.e.*, the works of the building of our new Legislative Chambers, which were summarily stopped on the occasion of the midday march on 21st April, 1856, were completed in due course, and seven months later, *viz.*, 21st November of the same year, the first constitutional Parliament of Victoria assembled within its walls.

Carlton "Paddock" was the designation by which was most known in 1856 the magnificent reserve now enclosing that huge pile of architectural eccentricities, erected at enormous cost and maintained at an annual loss to the taxpayers, in which to hold our International Exhibitions and "great world fairs." The paddock was then almost in a state of nature, and although within the city boundaries, few habitations were around it, where now some of the most approved dwellings and terraces look down on its ornamental lakes, mythological statuary, and ambrosial promenades.

The goldfish and the English songbirds have taken the place of the laughing-jackass,* the snake, and the 'possum. It was within these grounds on Whit Monday, 12th May, 1856, that the young emancipated tradesmen of Melbourne mustered to engage in the precursor of

* Name of a native bird of Australia.



THOMAS GAMON,

STONEMASON, PRESIDENT EIGHT HOURS' PIONEERS' ASSOCIATION.

BORN AT INCE, COUNTY CHESHIRE, 29TH JANUARY, 1820
(DAY KING GEORGE III. DIED).

Served his apprenticeship in Liverpool; subsequently foreman mason at the building of Birkenhead Docks, and inspector of works under Joseph Cupitt, Esq., engineer-in-chief on the Great Northern Railways, constructed by the late Mr. Thomas Brassey. Arrived in Melbourne by the ship *Chalmers*, 1852, and immediately proceeded to the diggings at Fryer's Creek, Forest Creek, &c. Joined the Masons' Society during Eight Hours' Agitation, 1856. Afterwards foreman mason at the building of St. Paul's schools (site of present cathedral), and at the building of the lighthouse on Wilson's Promontory.

those great processions which have since then been held each year on the 21st April. The morning was propitious, although somewhat cloudy, and at an early hour the several crafts arrived in goodly numbers, with banners, emblems, bands, and other paraphernalia incidental to an outdoor demonstration. The accessories of banners and emblems, depicting the various arts of peace, are almost as venerable as those engaged in war, and which were the standards of monarchs and their feudal barons. In the illuminated copies of Froissart may be seen several of these representations. One showing a hammer, trowel, and plumb (masons and bricklayers), on an azure field; on another an axe and two pairs of compasses (carpenters); and on the painting of the battle between Philip d'Artevland and the Flemings and the King of France are illustrations of banners charged with boots and shoes (shoemakers), drinking vessels (tinsmiths and potters), while more ancient still is the emblem of Gao, the blacksmith who overthrew the dynasty of the tyrant Zohak, the first of the princes to reign in Persia after the deluge, and for whose discomfiture the blacksmith of Khorassan raised as his standard his old leather apron—hence the apron of the Persians. Indeed, in all countries and at all times those visible signs of discontent and reform have ever been objects of the greatest interest and devotion. There is, however, one contingency to be reckoned with in the raising of a standard—one cardinal qualification to the glory which must radiate from it as a centre—the quality of success.

For this the star-spangled banner of America joined issue with the royal flag of England, and like the tri-colour of La Fayette in France, which replaced the *fleur-*

de-lis of the House of Valois, both were begotten in seas of blood. If the movement for reform predicates a permanent success, and is ratified by a victory which places assurance beyond doubt, the standard and its champions are ennobled with the halo of glory and the title of heroes. Reverse the picture (and an accident may blast the best-designed operations) and we have—

Rebellion! foul, dishonouring word,
 Whose wrongful blight so oft has stained
 The holiest cause that tongue or sword
 Of mortal ever lost or gain'd.
 How many a spirit, born to bless,
 Hath sunk beneath its withering name,
 Whom but a day's, an hour's success
 Had wafted to eternal fame!

—MOORE'S *Lalla Rookh*.

Perhaps it was with mingled feelings akin to the foregoing that the new Eight Hours' banner of Victoria was viewed upon this Whit Monday of 1856; but if there were any misgiving in the minds of some in the large crowd who watched the gathering of the new societies, it was certainly not to be observed, either on the countenances or in the demeanour of the "Demonstration Committee."

The Cremorne band struck up, and enlivened the proceedings with some stirring music as the trades exchanged congratulations, and the marshals—busy here, there, and everywhere—caused much amusement while getting their semi-disciplined companies into something like order.

Scotland for ever! A Highland piper in full costume, assisted by a piccolo player and a drummer, essayed the task of silencing, or producing a howling discord, among the gentlemen of Teutonic nationality forming the band, and whose faces and necks became distended and scarlet

as they laboured on with their brass instruments in complete contempt for the pibroch-player and his satellites as they made the welkins ring with "The MacGregor's Gathering."

Have you ever noticed, dear reader, that the most delightful part of a great holiday is the start? When the energies are relaxed by the fresh morning air, and the buoyancy of animal spirits is excited by the continuous arrival on the scene of old and valued friends, and the introduction to new ones about to take part in the gay scene. The holiday attire of our wives and children and our sweethearts, who have for a few happy hours left the environments of home, and now, wreathed in smiles and dressed in their newest, are exulting in the anticipated enjoyments of the brief season during which "dull care" is turned adrift, and the charmed exuberance of the hour is unsullied by a single reflection of what the close of the day or the rise of to-morrow's sun may bring forth.

Shortly after ten o'clock the procession, about 1200 or 1500 strong, preceded by the band, issued forth from the "paddock" with the Eight Hours' banner at the head of the Demonstration Committee, supported by a Union Jack, with a golden figure of Eight on the spear end of the staff. In the van was the President and Chief Marshal, Thomas Walter Vine, who was soon after joined by the very popular Mayor of Melbourne, Cr. John Thomas Smith, whose well-known white hat, and whiter shirt frills, formed themes for satire and sonnet alike among the precocious wags of the period.

Next came the masons, followed by the bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, painters, slaters, quarrymen and coachbuilders, the whole forming the

nucleus of the fifty Eight Hours' trades, which have since then sprung into existence in Victoria, and whose accumulated thousands in procession needs the retention of a vantage site for over an hour, as did the citizens of the ancient mistress of the world, who—

“Climbed up the walls and battlements,
To towers and windows, yea, to chimney tops,
To see great Pompey pass through the streets of Rome.”

Thousands of people lined the streets on the occasion of the inaugural show; many whose intellectual nourishment was drawn from the poisoned source of the literary snipe who bewailed that “for thirty years at least, the midnight hour has never seen the termination of our daily toil,” and whose work “begun as early in the morning as that of the most penurious workman.”* The “wet blanket,” however, produced no visible effect, and all went merry as a marriage bell.

Amongst the ensigns displayed on the occasion, and which were necessarily limited, was an appropriate banner with a representation of a beehive, and the inscription attached, “Unity and Benevolence,” followed by a flag bearing three half moons on a black ground. What affinity existed between the Prophet Mahomet, or the Caliphs of Persia (all of whom are symbolised in the illustration) and the particular trade which rejoiced in flaunting their emblem, is not explained, doubtless for the all-sufficient reason that its significance was never questioned, and the ancient standard of the “night and the shadow” with the historic crescent, emblematic of the prophet’s flight from Mecca to Medina, served a purpose that those great ones of the east never dreamed of. Next came a pretty flag, on which was emblazoned the

* *Morning Herald*, 23rd April, 1856.

rose and shamrock—but horror!—“Where’s the thistle, Jim?” asked a bystander of Stephens, the Welsh Chartist. “Why don’t you ask me where’s the leek?” suggested the burly mason, by way of reply; while roars of laughter were produced as the omission was perceived. Piquant banter followed, the fun being augmented by witty suggestions and alternatives—“Cut one in the paddock, ‘Jim’ and stick it on the top of the pole.” “Where’s the Highlander? Bring him along.” The semi-nude is hurried up behind the incomplete emblem, and soon the “screech” of the bagpipes supplies the loss of the prickly exotic, and on the procession moves again. Ever increasing crowds greet the new movement at every point. Along Nicholson-street, Bourke-street, Elizabeth-street, and thence through Collins-street to the Cremorne Gardens. Here the sports and festivities were entered upon with whole-hearted pleasure.

The family baskets were unpacked in green shady nooks; the little ones—ever, ever hungry—ever impatient, guzzled until they rolled over helpless on the sward; the elder branches who were at the period of adolescence—so sweet, particularly with the gentler sex—when one is just escaping out of those tedious “teens,” and rising the first score of years, and when “love’s young dream” is most fascinating, abandoned themselves to the giddy swirl and mazy allurements of the dance, undeterred by those moralists of which the “Broadford parson” is one of the latest types. I have heard not a few in later years, when by their firesides in the winter of life, tell their children of some of the little frolics of the Whit Monday of 1856, and seriously declare that “dancing was dancing in those days.” At three o’clock the men sat down to dinner in the pavilion, to the number

of six or seven hundred, with Mr. T. W. Vine in the chair. The speeches were curtailed through the Mayor being obliged to leave early to proceed to Sydney; and Dr. Embling, who had promised to give an address on the Eight Hours, was unavoidably absent, and although there was a good supply of speakers present, ready to exhaust an ordinary toast list, it was found to be useless to restrain the desire for the enjoyments of the open air, with its side-splitting shows, the inevitable Punch and Judy, the "marvellous Wielands," and the preparations for the warlike display which was to send them all home to dream of thundering cannons belching forth fire and smoke, scaling of parapets, the emblems of Mahomet and La Fayette disappear in the chaos, and the divided eagle of Russia floats on the crest of the Malakoff, when lo! the Union Jack, with a golden Eight is descried advancing at the head of a motley group, in which is represented every type of humanity, from the cock-lane ghost to Cicero—and the illusion is dispelled as the dreamer realises that—

" Every flap of England's flag
Proclaims that all around are free,
From farthest Ind. to each blue crag
That beetles o'er the western sea."

The day and the night are past; the future of the Eight Hours is henceforth the problem. Will it survive? . . . Forty years after. How has it been maintained? Victorians of 1896, answer! We have nourished it until we saw it resuscitated in healthy growth in those colonies where it had almost perished. We stimulated its adoption in South Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, and Western Australia; we watched its development in other lands until we observed it shake England to its centre in later years; we saw the Government of the

United States, by an Act of Congress in 1868, provide for its transplantation throughout all the mechanical branches of the Government service of the great republic; we read of our fruit extending to alien countries, and the National Federation of Belgium join with the German miners in a demand for its provisions in the auspicious month of April, 1891, and the following month of the same year the electric current flashed the news of one hundred thousand underground toilers of Illinois, who came forth from the deep and gloomy mines to struggle for a branch of that tree grown from the "little acorn" which was already bringing joy to millions of human beings throughout the civilised world. *Circumspice!*

But I am travelling beyond the limits assigned to this portion of my subject, and must retrace my steps somewhat to explain a few of the immediate effects which the institution of the system had in Victoria.

One of the earliest complaints bandied about the probable result of its operation was the common one applied by ungenerous and uncharitable people, on the opportunities which the time snatched from toil would afford workmen of indulging in the pleasures of the bottle, and the questionable influences of the public-house, instead of the attractions of mental culture and other pursuits of a more elevating character.

The same luminous scribbler to whom I have already adverted writes:—"We did not happen to see the procession ourselves in all its sober solemnity; we only obtained a glimpse of it when the magnanimous passing of resolutions, the heroic imbibition of nobblers, and the more glowing and dubious production of the tributary half-crowns at the tavern meeting, only reminded us of

what we have very often witnessed and deplored in the old country."

Paltry libeller of his race! It is more than probable that "ourselves" was a "deadhead" at the "tavern" meeting; and how "we" can contrive to squeeze forty-two pence into half-a-crown is a feat which must be known only to "us." A few general facts will suffice to show what use the trades made of their opportunities and their means.

The proceeds of the Cremorne *fête*, amounting to £248, were equally divided between the two principal charities, viz., the Melbourne Hospital and the Melbourne Benevolent Asylum to begin with, and the "blockhead who set the agitation going"—presumably James Stephens—now set another agitation on foot, and a Committee of the trades, with the "blockhead" as its Chairman, in a short time raised the further sum of £1000 for the hospital, by holding meetings in the evenings in Melbourne and vicinity, and at a time when their censor conceived they would have been indulging in senseless and degrading conviviality. With this sum as a nucleus the Hospital Committee decided to start a new wing, and—unhappily the circumstance seems to be forgotten—it was to be called the "Tradesmen's Wing." To commemorate the event a dinner (Englishmen must have a dinner) was held at the Cross Keys Hotel, Russell-street, with Mr. Stephens in the chair. The report of the Hospital Committee of the 29th January, 1857, makes special reference to "the working-men of Melbourne and its vicinity," and to whom it offers its "congratulations." It would be difficult to enumerate the several sums extending over a number of years raised for the same good purpose by the Eight Hours'

trades and through their agency, but a few items may be of interest to show the use the Victorian workmen made of their new-born leisure :—

By Collections at Evening Meetings ..	£1,000	0	0
„ Twenty-six Life Governors, appointed by the Eight Hours' Anniversaries Committees, at £20 each	520	0	0
„ Nine Life Governors, appointed by Trade Societies, £20 each	180	0	0
„ Melbourne Typographical Society, 1857	100	0	0
„ Proceeds of Concert, organised by Eight Hours' Anniversary Committee on Ship <i>James Baines</i>	120	0	0
„ Half Proceeds of <i>Fête</i> , 1856	124	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£2,044	0	0

NOTE.—The foregoing table is totally distinct from all other contributions for the same purpose voted by individual trade societies, and collected annually in other ways in the various hives of industry—factories, foundries, workshops, buildings, railways, wharves, and shipping, and which would total a very large sum.

LIST OF LIFE-GOVERNORS

APPOINTED BY THE

EIGHT HOURS' ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE.

MELBOURNE HOSPITAL.

YEAR.	NAMES.	TRADES.
1873 ...	Thomas Charge	... Painter
1874 ...	John Munro	... Shipwright
1875 ...	Henry Arthur	... Quarryman
1876 ...	John B. Griggs	... Bricklayer
1877 ...	David Bennet	... Engineer
1878 ...	Samuel Lemmon	... Mill Sawyer
1879 ...	Robert Miller	... Carpenter

1880	...	James Goding	...	Brickmaker
1881	...	Neil M'Lean	...	Seaman
1882	...	John H. Munro	...	Gas Stoker
1883	...	Murdoch Callen	...	Sailmaker
		Hugh Patterson	...	Boilermaker
1884	...	Samuel Adair	...	Stevedore's Labour'r
		George Denham	...	Cooper
1886	...	Wm. C. Miller	...	Printer
1887	...	Fred. H. Bromley	...	Tinsmith
1888	...	W. H. Williams	...	Enginedriver
1889	...	Edward Sheeran	...	Ironworkers' Asstnt.
1895	...	J. C. Morison	...	Amalg. Carpenters

ALFRED HOSPITAL.

1885	...	Philip Edersham	...	Cigarmaker
1886	...	George Ganton	...	Coachbuilder
1887	...	Michael F. Reddy	...	Presser
1888	...	J. Fabri	...	Felt Hatter
1889	...	Joseph King	...	Bootbinder
1895	...	W. Campbell	...	Amalg. Engineers

HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

1886	...	William A. Trenwith	...	Bootmaker
1887	...	George Davidson	...	Brewer
1887	...	A. S. Sinclair	...	Brassfounder
1895	...	J. De Gruchy	...	Tinsmith

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

1886	...	Jas. W. Sutherland	...	Confectioner
1887	...	Samuel Noel	...	Cabinetmaker
1888	...	Walter Wall	...	Agricultural Imple- ment Maker
1889	...	Henry Bowles	...	Tanner

EYE AND EAR HOSPITAL.

1887	...	Robert Hayes	...	Saddler
1888	...	J. B. Tucker	...	Wharf Labourer
1895	...	Charles Harris	...	Saddler

WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

1895	...	W. Sinclair	...	Railway <i>Employé</i>
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It will be observed that not only did the Eight Hours' trades start well in the cause of charity, but they have steadily maintained the virtue in all its pristine designs.

The "tavern" meeting, as their ungenerous critic called it, was early dispensed with, and a place of meeting erected where the suspicion of the drinking custom would not prevail; but here let it be asked, why should the working classes (operative mechanics) be singled out in this particular phase of life for animadversion? It was imperative, before they were in a position to build meeting places themselves, that they should have accommodation, which only houses of public resort could supply. Hotels or "taverns" have, from all time, been the poor man's meeting house, where he might discuss his grievances with his neighbours, and often find a sympathetic and responsive chord awakened in his misery among those of his own class. Let it be remembered that long before the erection of special meeting halls, or the churches had opened their doors to the proletariat on Sunday afternoons for the discussion of social subjects affecting the labouring classes, it was in public house and "tavern" were formulated some of the greatest reforms which have enabled the British workman to hold up his head as becomes a free citizen in a free country, and to qualify himself to take his place in life as a thinker,

reasoner, debater, representative on public conventions, the magisterial bench, and finally even to the Senate House of his country. In public house and "tavern" were instituted the Anti-Corn Law League, the Reform Bill, 1832, and the Chartists' gospel, to which, in a great measure, we owe the freedom of our Australian institutions to-day. Much more might be said, but space will not permit me to follow farther this club-ridden scribe, this victim of absynthe and benedictine, "blasting his wholesome brother," and who, revelling in the mire of besotted ignorance and perverted humanity, can see no parallel between the Palace Yard Convention and the grog shanties of the Eureka, nor between the Crown and Anchor in the Strand and the Belvidere on the Eastern Hill.

On the 25th April, immediately following the great demonstration, the Eight Hours' Labour League was established, with the design of extending the blessing of the new principle to all the labouring classes in the community. This league was presided over by Mr. John Sinclair, M.L.A., with Mr. A. Forsyth as treasurer, and Mr. Cattach as secretary, and included representatives from the Early Closing Association. While the new trades' associations were engaged consolidating their laws, the league was doing good work throughout the more distant centres of population. Ballarat, Bendigo, and Castlemaine were visited; meetings were held and branches formed, an immense roll being made up of those whose occupations and conditions precluded their membership to trades' unions. The study of politics as a consequence soon began to occupy the minds of the people. Leading public men discovered the growth of an organisation which was capable of

effecting political equality, and reforming abuses which were the natural outcome of the old conservative system which had hitherto prevailed. The interminable land problem, which no doubt had its origin in every country under the sun in pre-historic times, was just then a burning question. Necessarily, the Eight Hours' men early learned that the landed interest retarded settlement and agricultural prosperity in a primary degree. The squatters' occupation licences, with perpetuity of tenure, locked up nearly all the avenues which led to the introduction of yeomanry homesteads, and were the fertile source of inequitable taxation. On the other hand, the large class whose living is solely drawn from a free soil under cultivation, together with their advocates, having observed the lesson in organisation set by the craftsmen of the cities, conceived the idea of amalgamation, in the hope that a general agitation would result in useful legislation, and a fair share of the national burdens would be drawn from that source which John Stuart Mill aptly called "the unearned increment." Thus a new agitation sprung up, led by John Wilson Gray, Graham Berry, George Higinbotham, J. J. Walsh, and others, who formed another powerful organisation, entitled "The Convention Land and Reform League of Victoria."

My limits debar me from detailing the proceedings of this League, and I should not have introduced it but for the active part taken in it by the Eight Hours' leaders, who there obtained their first lessons in the perplexing study of the land question. From reciprocal motives, as I have pointed out, these leaders identified themselves with the Eight Hours' League, the President of the Convention, Mr. Wilson Gray, being also a member of

the Executive of the former body. Of this latter gentleman no eulogy said or sung by anyone of the present day could do justice to his memory.

In the terse and epigrammatic words of his learned and eminent coadjutor in politics, the late Chief Justice Higinbotham, "*He never compromised a principle*"—*I wish I could say the same for myself*. The Eight Hours' League and the Convention had both to mourn his loss. After years of struggle with the prejudices which beset his path in founding a true Australian democratic sentiment, and no longer able to withstand the strain on his mental and physical energies, he passed away, proud and penniless, from the scene, and finds an early grave in New Zealand, forgotten and almost unknown. Of him might it be written—

"You have worth, richly enamelled with modesty ;
And though your lofty merits might sit crown'd
On Caucasus or the Pyrenean mountains,
You chose the humble valley ;
And had rather grow a safe shrub below
Than tempt the winds, and be a cedar !"

The close of 1856 and the opening of 1857 were signalised by the greatest excitement in Victoria. Everything was new, and institutions of all classes were on their trial. New Government, new constitution, new democracy, new organisations, new grievances—everything was new. New men (the new woman was yet unborn) came by every ship and took their places on the platform.

Old Paddy's Market, the Belvidere, Carlton and Richmond "Paddocks," each had their quota of agitators on every conceivable subject, from the elements of the British constitution to the operations of the newest bush-ranger.

The 21st April, 1857, the first anniversary has come round amid all the excitement, and with a brief description of which I will draw this portion of my subject to a close. Although it is the "anniversary," it is also the first time the trades assembled on the "true day" to hold their *fete*, the inauguration through misadventure, it will be remembered, being held on Whit Monday, 12th May.

Of this anniversary Mr. Douglass was President, as he was also one of the Vice-Presidents of the Eight Hours' League. Benjamin Douglass first saw the light in the Parish of Greenwich, County of Kent, on the 26th March, 1830, and while yet a youth he had an early experience of the troublesome times of the Chartist agitation; when, after one of those frays before alluded to in this story, between the military and the people, he beheld his father carried home wounded and bleeding, one of the victims of the "Fire low and lay them out" ordinances of these earlier agitations. Mr. Douglass' association with Wilson Gray, Don, Dewar, Strickland, Horseman, Vine, and other leaders of the Eight Hours' Extension Movement in Victoria, is, and must ever be, inseparable from the history of the system. The first anniversary procession, through the circumstances of having twelve months in which to make preparations, was a decided advance on the inaugural display.

New banners are objects of great interest with the public, and certainly no such sight from an outdoor artistic point of view had hitherto been seen in Australia. The Eight Hours' flag was again in advance, followed by the masons, amongst whom were a number of the "craft" of Free Masons, who wore their regalia and emblems on the occasion. Their beautiful new

banner, showing three allegorical figures, emblematic of Labour, Recreation, and Rest, was much admired. Following the masons came the bricklayers, with a handsome new standard depicting on the front an angel stooping to raise the workingman, and on the reverse the bricklayers' arms. Alongside of the front ranks of the leading trades marched the Demonstration Committee, bearing blue wands and rosettes. After the bricklayers came the following trades, with banners and other insignia of their several callings—labourers, quarrymen, coachbuilders, printers, plasterers, carpenters and joiners, and plumbers. A melancholy event, however, caused a subdued effect on what might otherwise have been a gala of unrestrained enjoyment, both to the sightseers and processionists. It was observed that all the banner staves were draped with the sad garb of mourning, while other manifestations of sorrow were not wanting to evidence the fact that someone of more than ordinary importance had passed away. It proved to be the wife of Victoria's highly-respected Governor, Sir Henry Barkley, whose remains were that morning conveyed, with the universal regret of the whole people, to a vault in the new Melbourne Cemetery.

It may here be observed that when the trades of Melbourne pay any mark of deference to representative persons or memories of departed friends, it is whole-hearted and sincere.

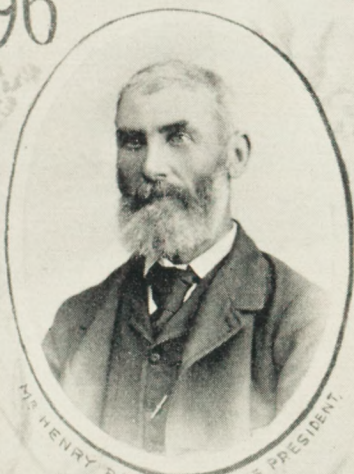
From the Sandridge Pier on the 7th May, 1866, their banners waved an adieu to the late hapless Sir Charles Darling, as he took his seat in the pinnacle that ferried him over the water in tears to the homeward-bound ship which bore him away for ever from the country and the people he loved.



OFFICERS of the FORTIETH EIGHT HOURS ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE 1896



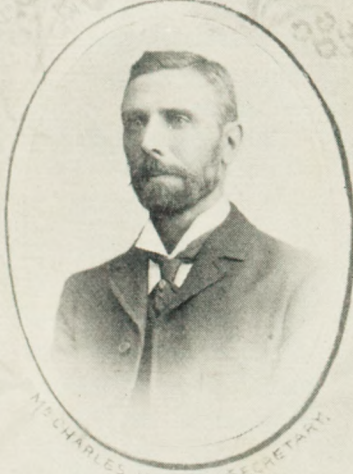
MR JOHN HYMAN, PRESIDENT.



MR HENRY BELFRAGE, VICE PRESIDENT.



MR SAMUEL HARRISON, TREASURER.



MR CHARLES HARRIS, SECRETARY.

On the 22nd February, 1879, the trades paid a similar compliment to Sir George and Lady Bowen, and in the address presented to that distinguished representative of the Crown they express "the confidence they have always felt in the exercise of that true statesmanship and impartiality for which your Excellency's administration has been conspicuous."

Sir Henry and Lady Loch soon endeared themselves to the whole people, but it must be admitted that they had exceptional advantages, through being with us in "the good times," and when the Eight Hours' anniversaries which occurred during their *regime* were in the zenith of pageantry and prosperity.

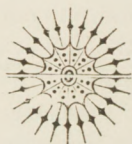
His Excellency was the first Governor who honoured the trades by taking part in their festivities, and when in the year 1885 the President of the Demonstration Committee (Mr. Miller), in toasting His Excellency's health at the midday banquet, held on the field of sports, regretted the absence of Lady Loch, he was gently reproved by the Governor, who said the reason Lady Loch was not present was because "she was not invited"—an omission which was atoned for the following year, when the distinguished visitors followed in their carriage the wake of the procession from the Treasury, where they viewed the pageant, to the Friendly Societies' Gardens.

At the anniversary of 1887, Sir William Robinson (Acting-Governor) observed the passage of the gala from the balcony of the Treasury, when the honour (which doubtless he prized most) was paid him by the trades halting, amid waving standards, banners, and ensigns, while the massed bands played his beautiful composition, "Unfurl the Flag."

In 1890 the Earl and Countess of Hopetoun were received with genuine enthusiasm, and His Excellency was presented with a beautifully illuminated address, embodying a synopsis of the origin of the Eight Hours' System, and of which His Lordship continued a warm patron during his tenure of office in Victoria.

The first anniversary was a great success, and realised a substantial profit, which was applied, as have all other revenues derived from the same source during these forty long years, viz.:—

THE BEST MEANS OF ADVANCING THE
EIGHT HOURS' SYSTEM.





CONCLUSION.

PIONEERS PASSING AWAY—Galloway's Tomb—Death of James Stephens.

Four decades of years have made sad havoc among those scions of a brave old stock. The shadow of the grizzly monarch has stolen often and at uncertain times to the abodes of the once hardy pioneers. He has spared some few to witness their fortieth annual cycle deposit its April garland on the beloved prize; while with others his mandate has been inexorable.

Alas! poor James Galloway, all too early you had to surrender your charge, and accompany the master to the grave. The cold white marble entablature, that meets the eye of the wanderer among the tombs, tells only in the poverty of language the story of your young life.

This Monument

Is erected to the memory of the late

JAMES GALLOWAY,

By the Eight Hours' tradesmen and others for the valuable services he rendered in establishing

The Eight Hours' System in this Colony,

Who departed this life, June 7th, 1860.

AGED 32 YEARS.

In the Church of England compartment of the Melbourne General Cemetery stand four Corinthian columns, rising from a massive stone base and surmounted by a moulded canopy of imposing proportions, the whole crowned with an allegorical finial emblematic of the Eight Hours' System.

The quadrangle in which is reared this artistic pile is enclosed by an iron railing, in character with the structure, which is wrought in Malmsbury stone, and executed in the most finished style of the mason's art.

On the northern face of the monument may be read the foregoing inscription.

Beneath it in peace lies

JAMES GILVRAY GALLOWAY.

He has since been joined by Wilson Gray, Higginbotham, Don, T. W. Vine, John Thomas Smith, the brothers Henry and Thomas Topping, and the latest, Alexander Todd.

* * * * * *

On a sultry night, about the middle of November of the year 1889, two men might be observed advancing at a rapid pace along the thronged thoroughfare of Lygon-street, Carlton. The heat of the day had left an almost unbearable glow in the atmosphere, without the slightest breath of wind to temper this early indication of a torrid summer. Promenaders in the streets were quietly sauntering, watching the adjusting of shutters and the extinguishing of lights in the establishments of that section of uncompromising shopkeepers whom no early-closing petitions nor decrees of Parliament can compel to abandon "business" before 10 p.m.



The two pedestrians strode on rapidly in silence until a sharp turn westward brought them to a narrow street in the vicinity of the Melbourne University.

The men now slackened their pace as the narrow footpath led them to a neat row of cottages, with gardens in front, enclosed by a picket fence, abutting on to the street. Opposite to one of these—the windows of which were opened for the admission of air, while a subdued light from a lamp within fell upon the front verandah and the shrubs and flowers beneath—the companions stood for a moment. "This is the place," said one. And they entered the garden by the little white gate. A gentle tap on the door, the knocker of which was muffled, brought, in response, a young man apparently between twenty-five and thirty years of age. A silent grasp of his hand to each as they entered proved that the newcomers were no strangers.

"I think he is sleeping now," said the young man, whose face betrayed an anxious expression, in which weariness and grief were blended.

"Has the doctor seen him to-day?" enquired one of the visitors.

"Yes," whispered the young man; "but he gives me no hope."

By this time the three had entered the sick room, where, with all the accessories of unostentatious comfort around, the patient reposed on a mattress laid upon the carpeted floor, with his head gently elevated with pillows.

The form stretched there, and from which, for coolness, the bed covering had been partly thrown back, and the patient's under garment been opened on the throat and breast, revealed the wasted frame of a once powerful

man. A large, well-formed head and intelligent face, on which a full beard, now white and grizzled, appeared. But a close observer would discern that the visage which bore it, now contracted by physical collapse, yet displayed the outlines of one of serious character and individuality, while the muscular hands, bronzed and bruised, as they lay prone by his side, told of the rough usage through which they had passed in the battle of life.

“Father,” said the young man, as, tenderly kneeling by the side of the invalid, who had now opened his eyes, and looking around he caught sight of the visitors, “your friends have come to stay a while with you, and I am going to leave you with them for a short time, as I promised the doctor I would see him again to-night. Shall I go, father? I’ll not be long.”

The patient, by a motion, signified acquiescence ;

Another look of intense anxiety, and the young man rose and hastily left the room to hide the tears which started, uncontrolled.

The two friends knelt on either side of the dying man, and took his hands in theirs.

“I’m glad you’ve come,” murmured the patient in a low voice, but in which the stilted Welsh pronunciation of the English language was apparent. “I’ve had a good many warnings, but I feel my time has come at last.”

The exertion to speak, and the close atmosphere of the apartment, induced thick beads of sweat to well up on the invalid’s forehead, while a humid vapour overspread the great muscular neck and chest. Yet his hands were cold—clammy cold. The little attentions which were necessary were delicately applied, and once

more he essayed to speak. The effort was almost beyond his fast fleeting strength.

“Bill,” he feebly whispered to the one who was now re-arranging his pillows; “You’ll not forget your promise to me when I’m gone. You know they——” the remainder of the sentence was inaudible.

The assurance was repeated in a low but emphatic voice in the ear of the rapidly sinking sufferer.

There was a momentary pause, the breathing became stertorous for a few minutes, and the chest heaved and sunk as the end seemed nigh.

Another short period of repose supervened; the old man opened his eyes again and made an almost superhuman effort to speak. The breath came and went between the words, while a slight smile played on his features—

“Bill! the flag—air—air—I—I—”

The one he had called “Bill” raised him up from the pillows to receive any current which might be induced between the half-open window and the door leading into the passage.

A deep respiration, followed by a slight muscular contraction of the features, was visible as the disengaged hand, with the last spasm, grasped the bed cover, and the poor head fell back gently on the breast of his supporter, telling too plainly that it would never rise again.

“He’s gone,” observed he who still knelt by his side.

A hand was laid over the region of the heart; it was stilled for ever; the spirit had passed into the presence of Him who said *Ego sum resurrectio et vita.*

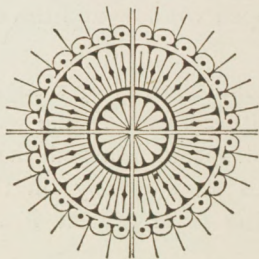
James Stephens was no more.

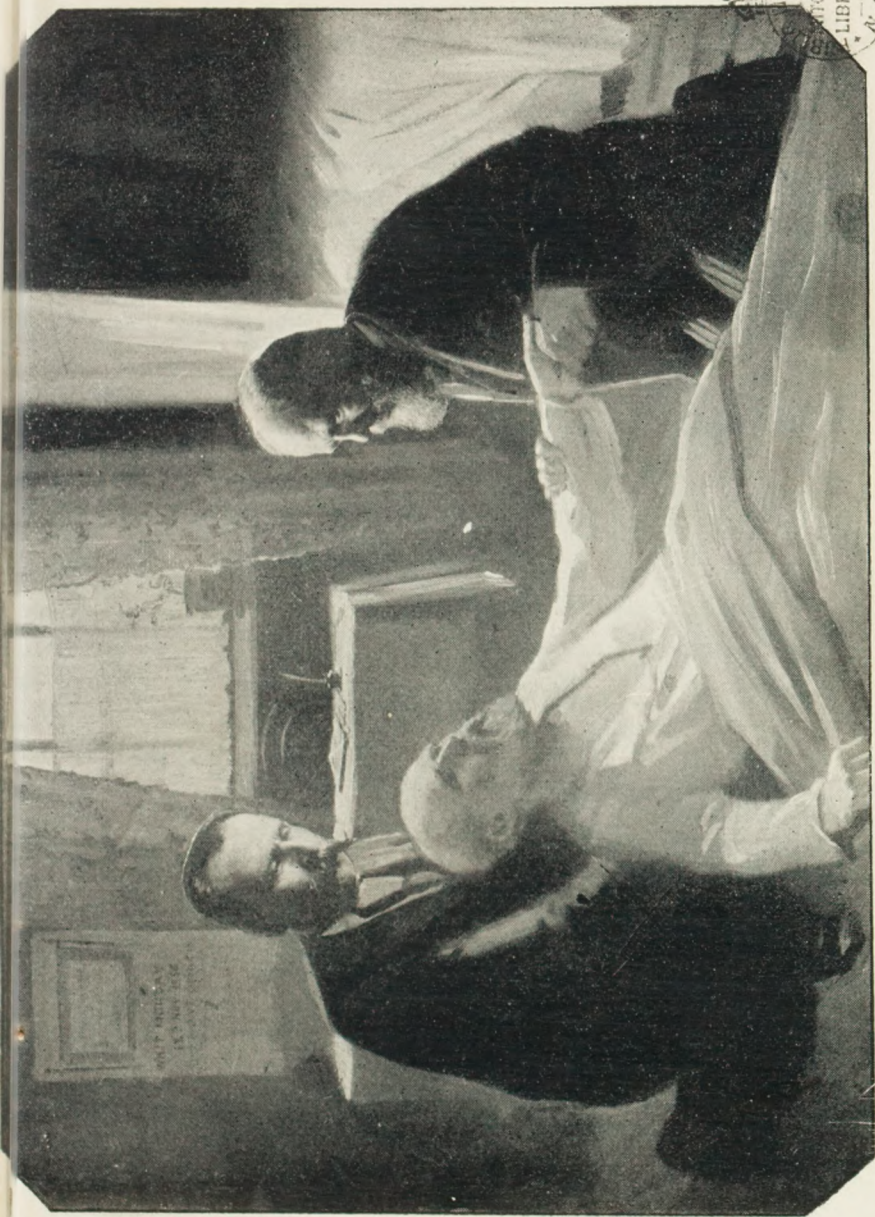
“Dead oak thou liv’st, thy smitten hands,
The thunder of thy brow
Speak with strange tongues in many lands,
And tyrants hear thee now.”

* * * * *

The companions of his death-bed were friends of many years; the one who felt the last pressure of his honest hand is Mr. William Campbell, the Secretary of the Melbourne branch of the Amalgamated Engineers’ Society; the other from whom he extorted the last earthly promise, and on whose breast the grand old veteran’s head was pillowed while he breathed his last sigh, is the author of this little work.

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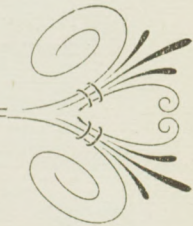
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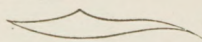
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JANUARY, 1896.

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| 1 | W | Great Strike Wharf Labourers at Melbourne, 1886. |
| 2 | T | Amalgamated Engineers' and Ironmasters' dispute settled, 1890. |
| 3 | F | First Anti-Chinese League estd., Melb. Trades Hall, 1878. |
| 4 | S | Copper Ore discovered, Kapunda, South Australia, 1844. |
| 5 | S | Tanners of Geelong obtain 8 hours, 1886. |
| 6 | M | Richmond (Vic.) City Council grant 8 hours, 1859. |
| 7 | T | Ballarat Tailoresses' Union established, 1884. |
| 8 | W | Trades Union Congress opened at Dunedin, N.Z., 1885. |
| 9 | T | Melbourne Typographical Society established, 1867. |
| 10 | F | Railway Employés' Association, S. Australia, estd. 1883. |
| 11 | S | Strike of Apprentices at D. Munro's Engineering Works, Melbourne, 1890. |
| 12 | S | Stewards and Cooks' Union, Melbourne, support Wharf Labourers, 1886. |
| 13 | M | Seamen's Union Strike at Melb., Wharf Labourers, 1886. |
| 14 | T | John Burns acknowledges £30,000 from Australia to Dockers, London, 1890. |
| 15 | W | Rules for Board of Conciliation adopted at Melb., 1887. |
| 16 | T | First Australian Theatre opened at Sydney, 1796. |
| 17 | F | Port Phillip Brickmakers protest against £10 licence, 1839. |
| 18 | S | Capt. Phillip founded first Aust. Settlement, Botany Bay, 1788. |
| 19 | S | Wharf Labourers' Strike settled at Melb., 1886. |
| 20 | M | Certificated Engine Drivers' Association established at Williamstown, 1890. |
| 21 | T | First Foreman Carpenter appointed in Victoria, Wm. Nichols, by Col. Collins, 1804. |
| 22 | W | First Criminal Sessions in Pt. Phillip, opd. by Judge Willis, 1841. |
| 23 | T | New South Wales Institute of Architects estd., 1871. |
| 24 | F | Saml. Plimsoll, M.P., Seamen's Friend, sailed for Aus. 1882. |
| 25 | S | Col. Collins abandoned Port Phillip, 1804. |
| 26 | S | John Curtain, M.P., laid Memorial Stone, Trades Hall, Melbourne, 1874. |
| 27 | M | Melb. Wheelwrights and Smiths' Society estd., 1883. |
| 28 | T | Lord Carrington laid Foundation Stone Trades Hall, Sydney, 1888. |
| 29 | W | Melbourne Tramways Union established, 1888. |
| 30 | T | Public Meeting held to raise Funds to build St. James' Cathedral, Melbourne, 1838. |
| 31 | F | Great Meeting Melb. Town Hall, in support Tailoresses' Strike, 1883. |

FEBRUARY.

1	S	Wm. Wright, first Inspector of Cattle appointed in Port Phillip, 1839.
2	S	Brewers' Employés' Society established at Melb., 1885.
3	M	Bendigo Miners' Association established (first Miners' Union), 1872.
4	T	<i>Typographical Journal</i> started, Melbourne, 1858.
5	W	Melbourne Operative Masons' Society re-established (Parent Union), 1855.
6	T	Sixth T.U. Congress opened, Hobart, 1889.
7	F	Brassfounders' and Finishers' Society established at Melbourne, 1885.
8	S	Victorian Marine Officers' Union established, 1885.
9	S	Victorian Typographical Union established, 1867.
10	M	Close Melbourne Bootmakers' Lockout, 1885.
11	T	Strike Corporation Labourers, Melbourne, 1886.
12	W	Hargreaves discovered gold, Lewis Pond Creek, N.S.W., 1851.
13	T	Melbourne Carriers' Union established, 1883.
14	F	Captain Cook killed by savages at Owyhee, 1779.
15	S	Melbourne Saddlers' Society established, 1882.
16	S	First Meeting New Conciliation Board, Ironworkers' Dispute, 1888.
17	M	Victorian Government offer to send troops to the Soudan, 1885.
18	T	James Stephens first moved Eight Hours' question in Melbourne, 1856.
19	W	Foundation Stone Melbourne International Exhibition laid by Sir G. Bowen, 1879.
20	T	Strike of Bakers at Brisbane, 1886.
21	F	Clerks of Works' Association formed, Melbourne, 1882.
22	S	Close of Tailoresses' Strike in Melbourne, 1883.
23	S	Pawnbrokers' Union established in Melbourne, 1882.
24	M	Collapse of Cigarmakers' Strike at Melbourne, 1887.
25	T	First distribution of prizes to students Working Men's College, Melbourne, 1889.
26	W	Felt Hat Makers' Strike finished, Melbourne, 1887.
27	T	Convicts started to build first houses in Van Dieman's Land, 1804.
28	F	First kangaroo killed in Van Dieman's Land, 1804.
29	S	Next Leap Year, 1904.

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MARCH.

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| 1 | S | Melbourne Operative Plasterers' Society established, 1856. |
| 2 | M | Alfred Graving Dock opened, Williamstown, 1874. |
| 3 | T | First Agricultural Show held in Melbourne, 1842. |
| 4 | W | Original Trustees Trades' Hall, Melbourne, elected, Olympic Theatre, 1858. |
| 5 | T | First Australian newspaper (<i>Sydney Gazette</i>) appeared, 1803. |
| 6 | F | Victorian Railway Employees Association estd., 1884. |
| 7 | S | Opening first Council Chamber, Melb. Trades Hall, 1884. |
| 8 | S | Hairdressers' Society established, Melbourne, 1886. |
| 9 | M | Melbourne Agricultural Implement Makers' Society established, 1885. |
| 10 | T | Captain Phillip hoisted "Blue Peter," Spithead, first settlement, 1787. [99th foot), 1844. |
| 11 | W | Burial first British soldier in Victoria (Sergt. M'Culla, |
| 12 | T | Melbourne Chamber of Commerce established, 1851. |
| 13 | F | First Employers' Union established Melbourne, 1885. |
| 14 | S | English delegates sent to Berlin Labour Conference, 1890. |
| 15 | S | N.S.W. Railway and Tramway Association estd., 1886. |
| 16 | M | Public Meeting, Old Trades' Hall, Early Closing, Mr. M'Culloch in chair, 1868. [1890. |
| 17 | T | Great Colliery Strike in England, 150,000 men leave work, |
| 18 | W | Ormond College, Melbourne, opened, 1881. |
| 19 | T | Mr. Jas. Moore's tender accepted to build Working Men's College, Melbourne, 1885. |
| 20 | F | Foundation Stone of Melbourne Hospital laid, 1846. |
| 21 | S | Henry George challenge W. A. Trenwith—Protection v. Free Trade, 1890. |
| 22 | S | Mr. Gladstone declares in favour of direct labour representation in Parliament, 1890. |
| 23 | M | Tender for first Australian Trades' Hall let to Smith & Hunter, Melbourne, 1859. |
| 24 | T | Col. Collins died at Hobart, 1810. |
| 25 | W | First Trades Hall Committee appointed, Melbourne, 1859. |
| 26 | T | Mass Meeting at Queen's Theatre, Melbourne; Eight Hours conceded, 1856. |
| 27 | F | First Sale Crown Lands at Adelaide, S.A., 1837. |
| 28 | S | W. A. Trenwith first elected for Parliament (Richmond), 1889. |
| 29 | S | Tramway Company Petition Mayor of Melbourne prohibit Eight Hours' Procession (unsuccessful), 1887. |
| 30 | M | Phillip Schoeffer, a German, obtained first land grant in Australia, 1791. |
| 31 | T | Victorian Chamber of Manufacturers established, 1877. |

APRIL.

1	W	Aerated Water and Cordial Makers' Society established, Melbourne, 1885.
2	T	Melbourne Carpenters first Meet to support Eight Hours, 1856.
3	F	First Steam Vessel built and launched at Melbourne, 1841.
4	S	Mutiny on board the <i>Egeria</i> , Sydney, 1890.
5	S	Melbourne Bakers obtain Eight Hours, 1884.
6	M	Quarrymen's Union established, Birmingham Hotel, Smith-st., Collingw'd. F. Strickland, chairman, 1856.
7	T	E. Manuel and B. Douglass obtain Master Plasterers' consent to Eight Hours, 1856.
8	W	Trades' Hall Council of Auckland, N.Z., established 1876.
9	T	Foundation Stone of St. Patrick's, Melb., laid, 1850.
10	F	Port Phillip Printers' Benefit Society, established 1844.
11	S	Second Great Meeting, Queen's Theatre. J. T. Smith (Mayor) presiding, favour Eight Hours, 1856.
12	S	Hassan <i>v.</i> Bell. Judge Williams upholds Eight Hours' Day.
13	M	First Races at Flemington (Melb.), 1841.
14	T	Sir Chas. Darling recalled from Victoria, 1866.
15	W	First Punt launched on the Yarra by Wm. Watts, 1838.
16	T	Melbourne Carpenters' Society established 1856.
17	F	Lady Barkley died; Eight Hours' Procession in mourning, 21st, 1857.
18	S	<i>Sydney Herald</i> first issued, 1831. [1877.
19	S	Hordes of Chinese enter Queensland; Governor protest,
20	M	Foundation Stone Brisbane Trades' Hall laid by Chief Justice Lilley, 1891.
21	T	Annual Fete, Eight Hours, at Melbourne.
22	W	Opening of Second Intercolonial Trades Union Congress, Melbourne, 1884. [1891.
23	T	Intercolonial Trades Union Congress opened at Ballarat,
24	F	Domestic Servants' Union established, Melb., 1890.
25	S	Inauguration of Female Operatives' Hall, Melb., 1887.
26	S	Foundation Stone, Trades Hall, Geelong, laid by Mr. Jas. Munro, 1890.
27	M	First South Australian Parliament assembled, 1857. [1770.
28	T	Captain Cook, in the <i>Endeavour</i> , anchored in Botany Bay.
29	W	Melbourne Carpenters' Society advanced first loan to build Trades Hall—£100; 1859.
30	T	John Melbourne Gilbert born at Sorrento—first white child.

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MAY.

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| 1 | F | First Great Anti-Chinese Meeting, Town Hall, Melb., 1889. |
| 2 | S | Mr. J. J. Casey, M.L.A., carried First Reading Labour Bill, Victorian Parliament, 1871. |
| 3 | S | Wharf Labourers' Union, Melbourne, established, 1885. |
| 4 | M | Tobacco Manufacturers' Society estd., Melbourne, 1884. |
| 5 | T | Hon. Francis Ormond died, 1889. |
| 6 | W | Inaugural Meeting of Working Men's College, Town Hall, Melbourne, 1887. [1866.] |
| 7 | T | Sir Chas. Darling leaves Vic. Great Trades Procession. |
| 8 | F | John Batman's remains buried Old Cemetery, Melb., 1839. |
| 9 | S | First Strike of Coachmakers, Melbourne. Eight Hours infringed on, 1859. |
| 10 | S | Trades Hall Committee accept Mr. Ormond's conditions to establish Working Men's College, 1882. |
| 11 | M | Great Liberal Victory by Berry Govt. at Melbourne, 1877. |
| 12 | T | First Eight Hours' Procession at Melbourne to Cremorne Gardens, 1856. |
| 13 | W | Victorian Boilermakers' and Iron-ship Builders' Society established, 1880. |
| 14 | T | Coal Miners' Strike, Westphalia (Prussia), 90,000 men out, 1889. |
| 15 | F | Conference Master Butchers and Men, settle Strike. Eight Hours conceded, 1890. |
| 16 | S | First Medical Association established, Melbourne, 1846. |
| 17 | S | Tanners' and Curriers' Union established, Melb., 1884. |
| 18 | M | Bethanga (Victoria) Miners' Dispute settled, 1885. |
| 19 | T | Bootmakers' Union, Melbourne, established, 1879. |
| 20 | W | Mr. B. Douglass at Ballarat. Address on necessity to raise Trades' Hall, 1885. |
| 21 | T | The Explorer, Kennedy, left Rockingham Bay, Queensland. Killed by natives, 1848. |
| 22 | F | Great Anti-Chinese Agitation, Sydney, led by Sir H. Parkes, 1888. |
| 23 | S | United Labourers' Society established, Melbourne, 1882. |
| 24 | S | First Australian Trades' Hall opened at Melbourne, 1859. |
| 25 | M | Auckland Trades and Labour Council established, 1883. |
| 26 | T | O'Loghlen Government grant Site for Working Men's College, Melbourne, 1882. |
| 27 | W | Robt. Hoddle, first Govt. Surveyor arrived at Melb., 1837. |
| 28 | T | Bendigo Trades and Labour Council established, 1885. |
| 29 | F | Bone Mills Employés' Union established, Melbourne, 1890. |
| 30 | S | Banquet to Mr. Bruce Smith, founder Employers' Union, 1889. |
| 31 | S | Batman's First Meeting with Port Phillip Natives, 1835. |

JUNE.

1	M	First Land Sale, Victorian allotments, held at Sydney, 1837. [Melbourne, 1880.
2	T	Veterinary Surgeons' Association of Australia estd. at
3	W	First Strike Navvies at Melbourne, Sandridge-road contract, 1842.
4	T	Tip Dray Carters' Union established, Melbourne, 1890.
5	F	Chamber of Manufacturers apply for Government Land Grant to build Hall, 1883. [signed 1835.
6	S	Deed of Land Purchase from Aborigines to Batman,
7	S	First Meeting of the Old Trades' Hall Committee held in new Building, Lygon-street.
8	M	Railway Traffic Employés' Union of Victoria estd., Melb.
9	T	Theatre Royal, Melb., first opened by Brooke and Coppin; piece—"She stoops to Conquer"—1856.
10	W	Maltsters' Society established, Melbourne, 1885.
11	T	First Opera performed in Melb. (Norma), Olympic, 1855.
12	F	Chas. Jardine Don—first working-man M.P., Victoria, born 1820.
13	S	Shearers' Union established at Ballarat, 1886.
14	S	Shearers' Strike, Queensland, declared off, 1891.
15	M	Jewellers' and Watchmakers' Society re-established, Melbourne, 1890. [Gaol, 1799.
16	T	Public Meeting held, Sydney, raise funds to build first
17	W	Trades' Unions, N.S.W., send Delegate to Trades Union Congress, Paris, 1886.
18	T	Ports of Van Dieman's Land first open for commerce, 1813.
19	F	South Australian Employers' Union established, 1887.
20	S	Opening Queen's Theatre, Melbourne (Coppin), "Lady of Lyons," 1845.
21	S	Stewards' and Cooks' Union, Melbourne, established, 1884.
22	M	
23	T	Amalgamated Miners' Association of Victoria estd. at Bendigo, 1874.
24	W	Fellmongers' Union, Melbourne, established, 1889.
25	T	Ironworkers' Assistants' Union, Melbourne, estd., 1883.
26	F	Goldsbrough, Mort and Co. suspend payment, 1893.
27	S	Legalisation of Trades Union Bill moved, Victoria Parliament, 1882.
28	S	Trades Hall Committee propose to establish Working Men's College, Melbourne, 1860.
29	M	Burke and Wills died at Cooper's Creek, 1861.
30	T	

JULY.

1	W	Port Phillip changes its name to "Victoria," 1851.
2	T	First Cable Message from England to Australia, 1872.
3	F	Mrs. Keith Stewart turned sod for first Australian Railway, Sydney, 1850.
4	S	First Girder of Murray Bridge laid, connecting New South Wales and Victoria, 1877.
5	S	Creswick Branch of Amalgamated Miners' Ass. estd., 1878.
6	M	First Ball held Old Trades' Hall, Melbourne, 1858.
7	T	Mr. Thos. Brassey (now Governor Victoria), M.P., supports Tom Hughes' Labour Laws, 1869.
8	W	Masons' Society, Melbourne, advance loan to build Trades' Hall, 1859.
9	T	Lord Hopetoun Interviewed by the Unemployed, 1890.
10	F	Joint Action New South Wales and South Australia prohibit Chinese influx, 1888.
11	S	Deadlock New Zealand Parliament, on Chinese Restriction Bill, 1888. [1835.
12	S	Wm. Buckley, wild white man, first meets John Batman,
13	M	First Prosecution, Melb., under the Factories Act, 1886.
14	T	Ballastmen's Society, Port Phillip, established, 1886.
15	W	First Lodge of Druids established at Melbourne, 1850.
16	T	Birth of W. A. Trenwith, M.L.A., Launceston, Tas., 1846.
17	F	James Stephens, Founder Eight Hours' System, arrived Melbourne, 1853. [bers, 1887.
18	S	Victorian Tailoresses' Union roll now reached 3200 mem-
19	S	Omnibus Drivers' Union established at Melbourne, 1885.
20	M	Federation of all Miners' Unions, A.M.A., Australasia, established, 1884.
21	T	First Melbourne Fire Brigade established, 1845. [1859.
22	W	First Rules of Original Trades' Hall Committee adopted,
23	T	Navvies' Strike, Bacchus Marsh and Ballan Railway, Victoria, 1888.
24	F	First Veneer Saw imported by H. U. Alcock, Melb., 1867.
25	S	Eight Hours' Clause inserted by the late G. Langridge, M.L.A., in Tramway Bill, 1883.
26	S	Melbourne Branch Australian Shearers' Union established at Trades Hall, 1886.
27	M	J. P. Fawkner's Party sailed from Launceston for Port Phillip, 1835. [leases, 1857.
28	T	Wilson Gray and Land League protest against squatters'
29	W	First Delegates to Trust of Friendly Societies' Gardens, Melbourne, elected, Trades' Hall, 1869.
30	T	Ironmasters' Association of Melbourne established, 1886.
31	F	Steamship Owners' Association of Australia established at Melbourne, 1884.

AUGUST.

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1 | S | International Trades Congress at Paris, 1886. |
| 2 | S | Reduction Seamen's Wages Opposed by all Unions of Australia, 1886. |
| 3 | M | Lockout in Iron Trade threatened at Melbourne, 1886. |
| 4 | T | First Gold Discovery in Victoria (Clunes), 1851. |
| 5 | W | Centenary of O'Connell's Birth celebrated in Melb., 1875. |
| 6 | T | London Dock Strike commenced, 1889. |
| 7 | F | Great Strike Omnibus Drivers, Melbourne, 1885. |
| 8 | S | Gold Discovered at Buninyong, Victoria, 1851. |
| 9 | S | Employers' Union Approve Iron Trade Lockout, 1886. |
| 10 | M | Melbourne First Lighted with Gas, 1857. |
| 11 | T | Fishmongers' Union established at Melbourne, 1884. |
| 12 | W | Mass Meeting at Sydney, support Brickmakers' Eight Hours' Movement, 1886. |
| 13 | T | Mr. Frank Stuart Presents Petition for Increased Protection, 1889. |
| 14 | F | Geelong Branch Employers' Union established, 1890. |
| 15 | S | Undertakers' Assistants' Union established at Melb., 1890. |
| 16 | S | Farmers' Delegates and Trades' Hall Council agree to Stock Tax, 1889. |
| 17 | M | First Great Meeting Convened by John Burns, London, supports Australian Maritime Strike, 1890. |
| 18 | T | Maritime Strike declared general throughout Aus., 1890. |
| 19 | W | Shearers Armed at Brookong Station, N.S.W., 1888. |
| 20 | T | Burke and Wills, explorers, start from Melbourne for Carpentaria, 1860. |
| 21 | F | Grocers' Association established at Melbourne, 1890. |
| 22 | S | Navvies' Union established at Greensborough, Vic., 1887. |
| 23 | S | Shipowners' Confer at Albury <i>re</i> Maritime Strike, 1890. |
| 24 | M | Great Meeting, Tower Hill, London, supports Maritime Strike, 1890. |
| 25 | T | Phœnix Foundry, Ballarat, Closed—no coal; 370 men out, 1890. |
| 26 | W | Mass Meeting Employers' Unions, Melbourne, <i>re</i> Great Maritime Strike, 1890. |
| 27 | T | Nightmen's Union established at Melbourne, 1887. |
| 28 | F | Operatives Board of Trade established at Melbourne, 1858. |
| 29 | S | Military Called Out, Melbourne and Sydney, Maritime Strike, 1890. |
| 30 | S | Trades' Union Congress opened, Adelaide, 1886. |
| 31 | M | Tom Price's Prayer—"Fire low and lay them out," 1890. |

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SEPTEMBER.

1	T	Licences first issued to Gold Diggers, Victoria, 1851.
2	W	Locomotive Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of South Australia established, 1886.
3	T	United Timber Yards Employés' Association, Victoria, established, 1885
4	F	Death of J. P. Fawkner, founder of Melbourne, 1869.
5	S	Clunes (Victoria) Miners' Association established, 1873.
6	S	
7	M	Hon. F. Ormond, founder Working Men's College, interred, Geelong, 1889.
8	T	Gold first discovered at Ballarat, 1851. [1890.
9	W	Great Conference, Employers' Unions, at Sydney, N.S.W.,
10	T	Government grant Site for Trades Hall, Ballarat, 1886.
11	F	Great Conference, Trades Union Delegates, Sydney, 1890.
12	S	Great Northern Railway Employés' Protection Society, N.S.W., established 1883.
13	S	Cardinal Manning settled London Dock Strike, 1889.
14	M	Public Meeting, Old Exhibition, Melbourne. Re-erection of Trades Hall, 1858 [estd. 1880.
15	T	Boilermakers' and Iron Shipbuilders' Union, N S W.,
16	W	Ironfounders' Trades Union established Melbourne, 1882.
17	T	First International Exhibition of Australia opened at Sydney, 1879. [1816.
18	F	First Emigrant Ship from England arrived in Tasmania,
19	S	Riot Act read in Sydney—Maritime Strike, 1890.
20	S	Miners' Strike, Newcastle, N.S.W. Military called out, 1888.
21	M	Queensland Winegrowers' Association established, Brisbane, 1883. [Eight Hours, 1855.
22	T	Parramatta-street (N.S.W.) Lodge of Masons first declare
23	W	Conference of Miners and Owners—Great Barrier Dispute, 1890.
24	T	G. D. Carter, Mayor of Melbourne, gives fete to Working Classes at Town Hall, 1885.
25	F	Great Barrier Dispute referred to arbitration, 1890.
26	S	First Brick-making Machine finished, Langlands', Melb., 46,000 an hour. [1890.
27	S	Interdict of Freedom of Contract, Melb. Trades Unions,
28	M	First People's Concert held, Old Trades' Hall, Melb., 1859.
29	T	George Higinbotham subsidises Maritime Strike, 1890.
30	W	First Political Meeting held at Old Trades' Hall, Melb., Dr. Hunter, 1859.

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OCTOBER.

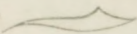
1	T	First Pastoral Society, "Australia Felix," established, Melbourne, 1844.
2	F	United Furniture Trades' Union, N.S.W., established, Sydney, 1885.
3	S	Stawell (Victoria) Miners' Association established, 1872.
4	S	Third Intercolonial Trades' Union Congress open at Sydney, 1885.
5	M	J. W. Hooson, first Police Officer of Victoria, arrives Melbourne from Sydney, 1836.
6	T	Collapse of Operatives' Board of Trade, Melbourne, 1859.
7	W	Colonel Price denounced by Victorian Parliament, 1890.
8	T	First Intercolonial Trades' Union Congress open at Sydney, 1879.
9	F	Coachmakers, Melbourne, adopt Eight Hours, 1882.
10	S	Stevedores' Labourers' Society estd., Port Melbourne, 1882.
11	S	Eight Hours' League established, Melbourne, John Sinclair, M.P., President.
12	M	Knights of Labour Meeting, Flinders Park, Melb., 1890.
13	T	Boot Manufacturers' Association established, Melb. 1882.
14	W	Mr. Ormond gives £5000; public subscribe £5300, establish Working-Men's College, Melbourne, 1882.
15	T	Foundation Stone Trades' Hall, Ballarat, laid, 1887.
16	F	H. H. Champion wires John Burns to stop support to Maritime Strike, 1890.
17	S	H. H. Champion denounced by Australian Unions, 1890.
18	S	H. H. Champion cables <i>London Standard</i> condemn Australian Unions, 1890. [Strike, 1890.
19	M	Great Open-air Meeting, Sydney Domain—Maritime
20	T	John Burns discredits H. H. Champion, 1890.
21	W	Victorian Government defeated on Sir B. O'Loghlen's motion <i>re</i> strike, 1890.
22	T	London Trades' Union willing to advance £20,000 to Maritime Strike, 1890.
23	F	Brewers' Employés' Union established, Melbourne, 1884.
24	S	Shipowners try Engage Labour in Ireland, Maritime Strike, 1890.
25	S	Warehouse and Store Employés' Union estab., Melb., 1890.
26	M	First Victorian Laundresses appointed by Colonel Collins (three soldiers' wives), 1803. [1838.
27	T	<i>Port Phillip Gazette</i> , second Victorian Newspaper, started,
28	W	First Labour Day inaugurated, New Zealand, 1890.
29	T	Bootmakers' Union, South Australia, established, 1883.
30	F	First Temperance Meeting held in Melbourne, 1838.
31	S	

NOVEMBER.

- 1 **S** Trades' and Labour Council established at Hobart, 1883.
- 2 M Australian Chambers of Commerce Confer at Melb., 1889.
- 3 T Old Cremorne Gardens, Melbourne, opened by Brooke and Coppin, 1856.
- 4 W Ladies' Bazaar at Melbourne, Aid Maritime Strike, 1890.
- 5 T John Batman's only Son Born at Melbourne, 1836.
- 6 F Federation of Australian Employers' Unions effected, 1889.
- 7 S J. J. Casey, M.L.A.—Labour Bill passed third reading, Legislative Assembly, 1871.
- 8 **S** Typographical Union of Australasia established, T. B. Wilson, President, 1880. [1874.]
- 9 M Typographical Society of S. Australia estd. at Adelaide,
- 10 T Strike of Wharf Labourers at Sydney, 1882.
- 11 W Arrival of the *Lysander* at Melbourne with first news of Pt. Phillip's Separation from N.S.W., 1850.
- 12 T First Lecture Melbourne Trades' Hall, C. G. Duffy—"Australia at bar of public opinion"—1860.
- 13 F Maritime Strike declared "off" at Melbourne, 1890.
- 14 S Death of James Stephens, founder Eight Hours' System, 1889.
- 15 **S** Opening Old Prince's Bridge by Supt. Latrobe, 1850.
- 16 M Pioneer Society Operative Masons estd. at Melb., 1850.
- 17 T Strike of Wharf Labourers at Adelaide, 1882.
- 18 W Coopers' Union established at Melbourne, 1880.
- 19 T The Pioneer Settler, Edward Henty, founded station at Portland, Victoria, 1834.
- 20 F The s.s. *Great Britain* first anchored in Pt. Jackson, 1852.
- 21 S New Houses Parliament, Victoria, opened at Melb., 1856.
- 22 **S** Great Lockout of Bootmakers, Melbourne, Victoria, 1884.
- 23 M Judge Barry, founder Melb. Public Library, died, 1880.
- 24 T Abel Jansen Tasman discovered and named Van Dieman's Land, 1642.
- 25 W First White Child Born in Victoria (son Sergeant Thorne), at Sorrento, 1803.
- 26 T Society Quarrymasters established at Melbourne, 1858.
- 27 F First European Marriage in Victoria—R. Garrett to Hannah Harvey, 1803.
- 28 S Free Banquet at Melbourne in honour of Duke of Edinburgh, 1867.
- 29 **S** Chas. J. Don Moved Eight Hours' Resolution in Victorian Parliament, 1859.
- 30 M First Reform League of Victoria estd. at Eureka Stockade. Diggers burn Government Licences, 1854.

DECEMBER.

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | T | First Municipal Elections at Melbourne, 1842. |
| 2 | W | First Mail Robbery, Sydney to Melbourne, by bush-rangers, 1840. |
| 3 | T | Eureka Stockade, 1854. |
| 4 | F | Payment to Garibaldi Testimonial Fund, authorised by Trades' Hall Committee, 1861. [1877. |
| 5 | S | Payment of Members Bill passed by Vic. Leg. Assembly, |
| 6 | S | Wharf Labourers' Strike, Sydney, collapsed, 1882. |
| 7 | M | Bootmakers' Lockout at Ballarat, 1884. |
| 8 | T | Mr. Thos. Brassey, great railway contractor, died, 1870. |
| 9 | W | Mr. Condell, first Mayor of Melbourne, elected, 1842. |
| 10 | T | Great Strike Tailoresses, Melbourne, 1882. |
| 11 | F | Payment of Members Bill rejected by Legislative Council, Melbourne, 1877. |
| 12 | S | Port Phillip Turf Club established, 1840. |
| 13 | S | Tenders Called for permanent Trades' Hall Building, Melbourne, 1873. |
| 14 | M | New Trades' Hall opened at Geelong, 1890. |
| 15 | T | Mr. Jas. Munro obtains grant Land for Geelong Trades' Hall, 1888. |
| 16 | W | Final Meeting Melbourne Trades to raise £1000 to build new wing, Melbourne Hospital, 1856. |
| 17 | T | D. S. Parnell, Founder Eight Hours, Wellington, New Zealand, died, 1890. |
| 18 | F | Trades' Hall Council protest against the prefix, "Leopold," to Working Men's College, 1884. |
| 19 | S | Final Remittance from Victoria to London Dockers' Strike sent—£3887—1889. |
| 20 | S | Master Printers' and Typographical Societies adopt limited apprentice system, 1888. |
| 21 | M | John Everard, M.L.A., moved Bill Legalise Eight Hours, Victorian Parliament, 1869. |
| 22 | T | First Meeting of the Building Committee for Permanent Trades' Hall, R. Miller, Chairman, 1868. |
| 23 | W | First Australian Newspaper, <i>Sydney Gazette</i> , collapsed, 1843. [1803. |
| 24 | T | Wm. Buckley, Wild White Man, absconded from Sorrento, |
| 25 | F | Jas. Hobart Thorne, first Victorian-born child, christened at Sorrento, 1803. |
| 26 | S | Wreck of the <i>Schomberg</i> , 1855. |
| 27 | S | Illawarra Miners, N.S.W., on strike, 1886. |
| 28 | M | Last Meeting of Old Trades' Committee in old Trades' Hall, Melbourne, 1877. |
| 29 | T | Employers' Union and Trades' Hall Council adopt Conciliation Rules, 1887. [lian-built ship, 1788. |
| 30 | W | Keel of the <i>Rosehill</i> , packet, laid at Sydney, first Australia- |
| 31 | T | Death of Sir Charles Hotham, third Governor, Vic., 1855. |

For 

TELEPHONE 524.




General Printing

AND

Illuminated Addresses

TRY

Spectator 
Publishing Co.


LIMITED,

270 Post Office Place,

MELBOURNE.

JOSHUA BROS.'

**VICTORIAN
SPIRITS.**



**WHISKY.
BRANDY.
RUM.
GIN.**

PUREST AND BEST.

Obtainable Everywhere.

THE 30TH

EIGHT HOURS' ANNIVERSARY,

21st APRIL, 1886.

BY PERMISSION OF MRS. MARCUS CLARKE.

The English air is fresh and fair,
The Irish fields are green,
The bright light gleams o'er Scotland's
streams
And glows her hills between.
The hawthorn is in blossom,
And birds from every bough
Make musical the dewy spring,
In April England now.

Our April bears no blossoms,
No promises of spring,
Her gifts are rain and storm and
stain,
And surges lash and swing.
No budded wreath doth she be-
queath,
Her tempests toss the trees,
No balmy gales, but shivered sails,
And desolated seas.

Yet still we love our April,
For it aids us to bequeath
A gift more fair than blossoms rare,
More sweet than budded wreath.
Our children's tend'rest memories
'Round Austral April grow;
Twas the month we won their freedom,
boys!
Just twenty years ago.

Though Scotland has her forests,
Though Erin has her vales,
Though plentiful the harvest
In England's sunny dales;
Yet foul amidst the fairness,
The factory chimneys smoke,
And the murmurs of the many
In their burdened bosoms choke.

We hear the children's voices,
'Mid the rattle of the looms,
Crying "Wherefore shut God's heaven
All your golden afternoons?"
Though here the English April
Nor song nor sun imparts,
Its spring is on our children's lips.
Its summer in their hearts.

We've left the land that bore us,
Its castles and its shrines,
We've changed the cornfields and the
rye
For the olives and the vines.
Yet still we have our castles,
Yet still we bow the knee;
We each enshrine a saint divine,
And her name is Liberty.

Liberty! name of warning!
Did ye feel your pulses beat?
As ye marching, moved this morning
All adown the cheering street?
In your federated freedom,
In your manliness allied,
While the badges of your labour
Were the banners of your pride—

Did your fancies speak prophetic
Of a larger league than this?
With higher aims and nobler claims
To grasp the good we miss!
When in freer federation
In a future yet to be,
Australia stands a nation
From the centre to the sea.

Cheer for Australia, comrades,
And cheer for England too!
Who loves them both will not be loth
To give each land its due.
So cheer for England, comrades—
Our fathers loved the soil—
And the grandeur of her greatness
Is the measure of their toil.

But never let our sons forget,
Till mem'ry's self be dead,
If England gave us birth, my lads,
Australia gave us bread!
Then cheer for Young Australia,
The Empire of the Free,
Where yet a greater Britain
The Southern Cross shall see.
We'll not forget, nor yet regret,
The land from whence we've flown
But Britain was our father's land—
Australia is our own.

CHRONOLOGICAL Roll of Officers of the EIGHT HOURS
MOVEMENT in the city of Melbourne, in the colony of
Victoria, since the inauguration of the system,
21st April, 1856, to the 40th Anniversary, 21st
April, 1896.

YEAR	PRESIDENTS.	TREASURERS.	SECRETARIES.
1856	Thos. W. Vine	A. Forsyth	Charles B. Vine
1857	Benj. Douglass	Charles B. Vine	Chas. Jardine Don
1858	John Spracklyn	Thomas W. Vine	Chas. Jardine Don
1859	Christopher Cutter	— Harwood	Thomas Symons
1860	George Wholmes	Thomas M'Qualter	Geo. Ravenscroft
1861	Robert Miller	John O'Brien	Geo. Ravenscroft
1862	John Sallery	William Beagley	Thomas W. Vine
1863	Robert Miller	William Beagley	Charles Clarkson
1864	James Atkinson	William Beagley	George Farley
1865	Charles Ralf	Thomas Davis	Geo. Ravenscroft
1866	Charles Ralf	John Seccombe	David Bennet
1867	John Seccombe	Richard Thorn	David Bennet
1868	Robert Miller	Shadrach Lambert	David Bennet
1869	Robert Miller	Shadrach Lambert	David Bennet
1870	Robert Miller	— Kelly	David Bennet
1871	J. Bishop Griggs	Geo. Ravenscroft	David Bennet
1872	J. Bishop Griggs	William Smith	A. J. Green
1873	Geo. Ravenscroft	Charles Rolfe	A. J. Green
1874	J. Bishop Griggs	Geo. Ravenscroft	David Bennet
1875	J. Bishop Griggs	William Smith	David Bennet
1876	J. Bishop Griggs	William Quinnell	David Bennet
1877	J. Bishop Griggs	Joseph Nixon	David Bennet
1878	Thomas Charge	Joseph Nixon	David Bennet
1879	J. Bishop Griggs	Joseph Nixon	David Bennet
1880	J. Bishop Griggs	Joseph Nixon	David Bennet
1881	Joseph Nixon	James Hall	Wm. E. Murphy
1882	Joseph Nixon	James Hall	Wm. E. Murphy
1883	James Mansfield	James Hall	Wm. E. Murphy
1884	Thomas Charge	Amos Yewdall	James Mansfield
1885	Robert Miller	Amos Yewdall	James Mansfield
1886	Robert Miller	Amos Yewdall	James Mansfield
1887	Robert Miller	Amos Yewdall	James Mansfield
1888	Fred. H. Bromley	Amos Yewdall	James Mansfield
1889	John Hancock	Amos Yewdall	James Mansfield
1890	Joseph Sitch	Charles Harris	Amos Yewdall
1891	Henry A. Harwood	George Jordan	James Mansfield
1892	Henry A. Harwood	John Callaghan	Charles Harris
1893	William Campbell	John Callaghan	Charles Harris
1894	George Prendergast	Samuel Harrisson	Charles Harris
1895	William Campbell	Samuel Harrisson	Charles Harris
1896	John Hyman	Samuel Harrisson	Charles Harris

ANNUAL CELEBRATIONS

OF THE

Eight Hours

THROUGHOUT AUSTRALASIA.

TASMANIA	-	-	LAUNCESTON HOBART	} 26TH FEBRUARY
QUEENSLAND	-	-	BRISBANE	- 1ST MARCH
			BARCALDINE	- 1ST MAY
VICTORIA	-	-	MELBOURNE BALLARAT BENDIGO GEELONG HORSHAM	} 21ST APRIL
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	-	-	ADELAIDE	- 1ST SEPTEMBER
NEW SOUTH WALES			SYDNEY	- 3RD OCTOBER
WEST AUSTRALIA	-	-	PERTH	- 21ST OCTOBER
NEW ZEALAND	-	-	WELLINGTON CHRISTCHURCH DUNEDIN	} LABOUR DAY, 28TH OCTOBER.

Original Handbill of the First Eight Hours' Procession in Victoria.

GRAND PROCESSION!!

AND FETE IN CELEBRATION OF THE

EIGHT HOURS'

MOVEMENT.

For the Joint Benefit of the

MELBOURNE HOSPITAL, AND THE BENEVOLENT ASYLUM,

Under the Patronage of the Right Worshipful the Mayor and the Committees
of the above Institutions.

CREMORNE

Gardens, the Vauxhall of Victoria. Manager, Mr. P. Scott.

Last Week but one of the Bombardment of Sebastopol

The Committee of Management having engaged the Cremorne Gardens for
the above object, to take place

ON WHIT MONDAY, 1856,

(May 12th) solicit the presence and aid of every working man and the public at large to come forward and support this great and glorious movement.

The procession will assemble in Carlton Gardens at half-past eleven and start at 12 precisely, accompanied by the celebrated Cremorne Band, *en route* along Spring Street, down Bourke Street to Elizabeth Street, up Collins Street, East, and thence to the Gardens.

DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE GARDENS, at 3s. 6d.

The entertainments will include the celebrated Bombardment of Sebastopol, with additional and appropriate devices in Fire Works, with guns of large calibre and extra brilliant Fire Works, consisting of Water Rockets, Water Fountains, Fiery Dragons, Golden Rain, Bomb Shells, Sky Rockets, &c., Explosion and Blowing up of the Malakoff Tower, the Town on Fire, &c., &c. Also, a Grand Water Piece, consisting of an Horizontal Wheel, discharging innumerable Rockets, with every variety of Beautiful Bouquets of Roman Candles with superb colours. Concluding with a mine of reported saucissons, and a variety of others, including Water Rockets.

Two large and beautiful Balloons will ascend in the air, illuminated with splendid colored fires on a self-acting process. After which there will be a piece of Beautiful Design, representing the CROSS OF MALTA.

EXTRAORDINARY GYMNASTIC PERFORMANCES,

BY THE BROTHERS DHERANG & STEBBING.

Music and Dancing all the Evening. Bombardment at Nine o'Clock.

PYROTECHNIST, PROFESSOR PRESCOTT. ARTIST, MR. W. J. WILSON.

Gentlemen's Tickets 2s. 6d; Ladies' ditto 1s.; Children under 14 years
of Age 6d. To be obtained of

Mr. Thomas W. Vine, 183, Lonsdale st., E.

Mr. Sinclair, Bonverie street.

Mr. Grant, Secretary to the Melbourne Hospital.

Mr. Haynes, Secretary to the Benevolent Asylum.

Mr. Hickinbotham, corner of Bourke and Swanston streets.

Mr. Terry, Swanston street.

Mr. Tankard, Temperance Hotel, Lonsdale street.

Mr. Buchanan, Temperance Hall, Russell St.

Mr. Marsden, Moor street, Collingwood.

Mr. Forsyth, opposite the Junction Hotel, St. Kilda.

Messrs. West & Co., Coventry street, Emerald Hill.

Mr. Harris, Bay street, Sandridge.

Mr. Pontin, the Cambridge & Oxfordshire Hotel, Richmond.

Mr. Woodward, Shepherd's Arms, Smith street, Collingwood.

Mr. Wood, Swan Hotel, Gertrude street, Collingwood.

Mr. McCellan, Belvidere Hotel, Brunswick street, Collingwood.

Mr. Thatchell, St. John's Tavern, Queen street.

Mr. Wedel, Criterion Hotel, Collins street.

Mr. Amos, South Yarra Club House Hotel.

Mr. Brown, Curzon street, North Melbourne.

The Cross Keys, Lonsdale street.

The Prince Albert Hotel, Prahran, and of

CHARLES B. VINE, Secretary, 30, Cambridge Street, Collingwood.

HARNETT AND CO. PRINTERS, 2, LITTLE COLLINS ST., EAST, MELBOURNE

PROGRAMME
OF
Eight Hours' Concerts.

MAIN HALL, AFTERNOON.

COMMENCING 1.30.

KOHLMAN AND GARDNER'S
GRAND MINSTREL AND VARIETY COMPANY.

Bones :	Interlocutor :	Tambo :
JANTZ KOHLMAN.	HARRY CARROLL.	DAVE GARDNER.
GEO. GARDNER.	Pianist :	JOHNNY GARDNER.
	FRED, IRELAND.	

PROGRAMME—PART I.

OVERTURE—"Zampa"	COMPANY.
SONG (comic)—"Golden Trumpet"	MR. GEO. GARDNER.
BALLAD—"One Heart Divine"	MISS IDA CLARKSON.
ACROBATIC SONG & DANCE—"Birds and Butterflies"	TATE AND BERN.
SONG (comic)—"Sweet Jennie"	JOHNNY GARDNER.
SONG (comic)—"Jubilee"	JANTZ KOHLMAN.
SONG (double voice)—"Don't Tell Mother"	HENRY CARROLL.
<i>Song and Dance by the Misses Wilson and Raymond.</i>	
SONG (comic)—"Coon Got Left"	DAVE GARDNER.

ALL NATIONS' DANCE - - - MISS JOCY BROOKS.
 IRISH SPECIALTY—"Barney, You'll Be Welcome"
 FINALE—"Bungtown Band" - - - WILL KIRBY.
 COMPANY.

DANCING BY MRS. FORBES' PUPILS.

Sailor's Hornpipe; Hungarian Dance; Clog; Irish Jig; Sand Jig; Bell Dance; Skipping Rope Dance; Highland Fling; Trilby Dance.

PART II.

OVERTURE—"Sunbeam" - - - FRED. IRELAND.
 SONG—"Marguerite" - - - MISS IDA CLARKSON.
 NEGRO SKETCH—"Two Pompeys" KOHLMAN & GARDNER.
 SONG—"Mountain Lass" - - - HARRY CARROLL.
 NEGRO SPECIALITY—"Girl I Left" - - - DAVE GARDNER.
 IRISH SPECIALTY - "Holligan" - - -
 SILENCE AND FUN - - - - TATE & BERN.
 MUSICAL ACT—"Merry Moments" KOHLMAN & GARDNER.
 NEGRO SPECIALTY—"So It Was" - - - GEO. GARDNER.
 FARCE - - - - DAVE GARDNER & COMPANY.

J. KOHLMAN, STAGE MANAGER.

TO CLOSE 5.30 P.M.

AFTERNOON, DOME STAGE.

TO START 1.30 SHARP.

1.30 to 2—Mr. H. C. Winter's Punch and Judy Show.
 2 to 2.20—Reel o' Tulloch. Messrs. G. Brown, R. Reaburn, J. and C. Williamson. Piper, Mr. C. Mackenzie.
 2.20 to 2.40—Comical Flying Hats, by French and Angelo.
 2.40 to 3—Performing Dogs, by H. C. Winters.

- 3 to 3.10—Gillie Callum Sword Dance, by J. Williamson. Piper, C. Mackenzie.
- 3.10 to 3.30—Musical Entree, by French and Angelo.
- 3.30 to 3.45—Sword Swallowing and Juggling, by H. C. Winters.
- 3.45 to 4—Triple Sailors' Hornpipe, by G. Brown, J. Williamson, and R. Reaburn.
- 4 to 4.15—Irish Jig, by C. Williamson.
- 4.15 to 4.45—Horizontal Bar, by French and Angelo.
- 4.45 to 5—Shean Trews, by R. Reaburn. Piper, C. Mackenzie.
- 5 to 5.30—Punch and Judy, by H. C. Winters.

AFTERNOON, ARENA.

- 1 to 1.30 and 3 to 3.30 p.m.—Tindall Bros.
- 4.15 to 2.30—May Pole Dance, by Mrs. Forbes' Pupils.

Grand ORGAN RECITAL, by Mr. W. J. TURNER

6.30 TO 8 P.M.

OVERTURE	-	-	"Tancredi"	-	-	<i>Rossini.</i>
ANDANTE	-	-	"Pilgrim's Song of Hope"	-	-	<i>Batiste.</i>
FANTASIA AND FUGUE	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Muller.</i>
MARCH	-	-	"Athalie"	-	-	<i>Mendelssohn.</i>
OFFERTOIRE IN D	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Batiste.</i>
TOCATTO	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Dubois.</i>
GRAND MARCH	-	-	"The Boys of the Old Brigade"	-	-	<i>Barri-Hoyt.</i>

DOME STAGE, EVENING.

DANCES OF ALL NATIONS.

BY THE PUPILS OF MRS. FORBES.

FROM 7.30 TO 8.15.

England—Hornpipe; Scotland—Highland Fling; Ireland—Irish Jig; America—Sand Jig; Spain—Spanish Dance; Hungary—Hungarian Dance; Australia—Australian Natives' Dance.

- 8.15 to 8.30—Reel, Scotch, by Messrs. G. Brown, J. and C. Williamson and R. Reaburn. Piper, Mr. Mackenzie.
- 8.30 to 8.45—Comical Flying Hats, by French and Angelo.
- 8.45 to 9.15—Punch and Judy, by Mr. H. C. Winters.
- 9.15 to 9.30—Horizontal Bar, by French and Angelo.
- 9.30 to 9.45—Performing Dogs, by H. C. Winters.
- 9.45 to 10—Sword Swallowing and Juggling, by H. C. Winters.
- 10 to 10.30—Musical Entree, by French and Angelo.

EVENING.

PART I.

- OVERTURE—"La Ruche d'Or" - - - ORCHESTRA.
- VOCAL QUARTET - - - - COMPANY.
- SONG—"Toreador" (From Carmen)—*Bizet* MR. W. T. FORSTER.
- SONG—"The Carnival" - - - Miss JOSEPHINE O'BRIEN.
- SONG—"The Valley by the Sea"—*Adams* - Miss IDA COX.
- SONG—"The Romany Lass"—*Adams* MR. ARMES BEAUMONT.
- SONG—"The Gift"—*Behrend* - - - Miss ISABEL REID.
- DUET—"Venetian Boat Song" { MISS BEATRICE KELLY.
MISS IDA COX.
- SONG—"Angels of Light"—*Dr. Torrance* - MRS. PALMER.
- RECITATIVE AND ARIA—"Death of Nelson"—*Braham*
MR. J. M. CROWLEY.
- SONG—"Nobil Signor"—*Meyerbeer*
MISS FLORENCE FITZGERALD.
- DUET—"When Shall we Meet"—*Glover* { MRS. PALMER
MISS ISABEL REID

DURING INTERVAL.

- GAVOTTE—"Danse Antique"—Special Fairy Dance
LITTLE VERA FORBES (3 years old).

PART II.

- VOLTI'S IRISH NATIONAL OVERTURE - - ORCHESTRA.
- TRIO—"O Memory"—*Leslie* - { MRS. PALMER.
MISS ISABEL REID.
MR. ARMES BEAUMONT.
- SONG—"The Minstrel Boy"—*Moore*
MISS FLORENCE FITZGERALD.
- BALLAD—"My Pretty Jane"—*Bishop* MR. ARMES BEAUMONT.
- SONG—"The Holy City"—*Adams* MISS JOSEPHINE O'BRIEN.
- VIOLIN SOLO—"Valse Caprice"—*Kallawoda*
MADAME ALMA BOLL.
- SONG—"Sunshine and Rain"—*Blumenthal* - MISS IDA COX.
- MARCH SONG—"Young Australia"—*M. Amati*
MR. FRANK MUSGROVE.
- SONG—"Annie Laurie" - - - - MRS. PALMER.
- SONG—"Come into the Garden, Maud"—*Balfe* MR. CROWLEY.
- SONG—"Tell Him"—*Armstrong* - MISS ISABEL REID.
- SONG—"Out on the Rocks"—*Sainton-Dolby*
MISS MABEL FITZGERALD.
- SONG—"When Bright Eyes Glance" - - MR. FOSTER.
- GRAND MARCH - - - - ORCHESTRA.

LEADER OF ORCHESTRA: MR. A. J. HARDEMAN.

ACCOMPANIST: MR. CHARLES SYKES.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: MR. T. A. LINEHAN.

EVENING, ARENA.

8.45 to 9.15—May Pole Dance, by Mrs. Forbes' Pupils.

P. J. M'NAMARA, CHAIRMAN	} AMUSEMENT COMMITTEE.
G. DAVIDSON, VICE-CHAIRMAN	
W. COLENZO, SECRETARY	

Eight Hours' Anniversary,

1896,

Exhibition Buildings, April 21.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

President—John Hyman.
 Vice-President—Henry Belfrage.
 Treasurer—Samuel Harrison.
 Secretary—Charles Harris.

SPORTS COMMITTEE.

FOOT-RACING EVENTS.

Chairman—Mr. E. Findley.
 Secretary—Mr. J. De Gruchy.
 Judges—Messrs. E. Findley, T. Geddes, and T. Drew.
 Starters—Messrs. J. De Gruchy and J. Thewlis.
 Handicapper—Mr. J. M'Grath.
 Clerk of Course—Mr. W. Sinclair.

CYCLING EVENTS.

Referee—Mr. J. R. Cathie.
 Starter—Mr. R. M. K. Gollan.
 Judges—Messrs. J. Boyes, F. Buston, R. W. Shellard.
 Clerk of Course—Mr. T. Comber.
 Umpires—E. Gray, W. G. Thomas, E. Overall, L. Gollan, E. Dawson, and J. Moorehead.
 Lap Scorer—Mr. G. Spicer.
 Colour Steward—Mr. J. B. Davenport.
 Number Stewards—A. Ellis and T. Gebbutt.
 Timekeepers—Messrs. Gaunt & Co.

HANDICAP BOYS' RACE (100 yards. Open to all).
1st prize, 1 sov.; 2nd, 10s.; 3rd, 5s. Entrance fee, 1s.

1st EVENT. Start, 12 noon.

1. W. T. Brunsdon
2. W. Prentice
3. T. Prentice
4. P. A. Dalgarno
5. G. Gilmour
6. J. Gration
7. H. Pietsch
8. A. J. Ball
9. J. E. Gorry
10. H. Scovell
11. V. MacVicar
12. W. M'Laren
13. W. Pontin
14. R. Bishop.
15. C. Bishop
16. H. Vaughan

HALF-MILE HANDICAP FLAT RACE (Open to all).

1st prize, 10 sovs.; 2nd prize, 3 sovs.; 3rd prize, 1 sov. Entrance
fee, 2s.; acceptance, 1s.

2ND EVENT. 1ST HEAT. Start, 12.10 p.m.

				YARDS.
1.	G. A. Bailey	..	..	.. 10
2.	J. J. O'Loughlin	..	..	.. 20
3.	B. O'Callaghan	..	..	.. 30
4.	C. W. Davey	..	..	.. 40
5.	J. Egan	..	..	.. 50
6.	J. Cooper	..	..	.. 50
7.	W. E. Smithwick	..	..	.. 55
8.	G. A. Nicholson	..	..	.. 55
9.	E. W. Epple	..	..	.. 60

3RD EVENT. 2ND HEAT. Start, 12.20 p.m.

				YARDS.
10.	A. Hansen	..	..	.. 25
11.	R. Keating	..	..	.. 35
12.	W. H. Massey	..	..	.. 40
13.	S. Hood	..	..	.. 45
14.	D. Wheeler	..	..	.. 55
15.	E. J. Sullivan	..	..	.. 55
16.	J. W. Conner	..	..	.. 55
17.	W. Allwood	..	..	.. 55
18.	M. Mundoza	..	..	.. 60

4TH EVENT. 3RD HEAT. Start, 12.30 p.m.

				YARDS.
19.	T. Sutton ..	..	..	.. 10
20.	W. M'Rae ..	..	..	.. 30
21.	A. Smith ..	..	..	.. 33
22.	J. F. Lannon ..	..	..	.. 45
23.	W. Couch ..	..	..	.. 50
24.	H. M. Foote ..	..	..	.. 50
25.	W. J. Brady ..	..	..	.. 55
26.	C. S. Butler..	..	..	.. 55
27.	J. Rowlands ..	..	..	.. 60

5TH EVENT. 4TH HEAT. Start, 12.40 p.m.

				YARDS.
28.	S. J. Jackson ..	..	..	.. 20
29.	J. H. Jukes ..	..	..	.. 25
30.	J. G. Cosson ..	..	..	.. 25
31.	M. Johnson..	..	..	.. 35
32.	W. S. Hammill ..	..	..	.. 45
33.	C. Burke ..	..	..	.. 50
34.	S. A. Simpson ..	..	..	.. 50
35.	H. Moore ..	..	..	.. 55
36.	J. Roberts ..	..	..	.. 60
37.	G. J. Ward ..	..	..	.. 60

6TH EVENT. 5TH HEAT. Start, 12.50 p.m.

				YARDS.
38.	H. Hopper ..	..	..	.. 15
39.	G. K. Conn ..	..	..	.. 20
40.	E. Mitchell ..	..	..	.. 35
41.	J. Farrell ..	..	..	.. 40
42.	E. R. Fleming ..	..	..	.. 45
43.	J. T. Vanderstool ..	..	..	.. 50
44.	H. Brewer ..	..	..	.. 50
45.	J. J. Junner ..	..	..	.. 55
46.	A. W. Patrick ..	..	..	.. 55
47.	T. H. Graco ..	..	..	.. 60

First and Second in each Heat in Final.

EIGHT HOURS' SHEFFIELD HANDICAP, 120 YARDS
(Open to all).

1st prize, 20 sovs.; 2nd prize, 6 sovs.; 3rd prize, 3 sovs.; 4th prize 1 sov. Entrance fee, 3s. Acceptance, 2s. 6d. To be run in heats between lines.

7TH EVENT. 1ST HEAT. Start 1 p.m.

			YARDS.
1.	J. H. King, red	.. ..	3
2.	R. Noonan, green	.. ..	9
3.	E. Heagney, black	.. ..	11½
4.	W. T. Tracey, yellow	.. ..	13½

8TH EVENT. 2ND HEAT. Start, 1.5 p.m.

			YARDS.
5.	A. A. Brown, red	.. ..	6½
6.	W. Doxey, green	.. ..	10
7.	T. C. Bendall, black	.. ..	12
8.	T. J. Minogue, yellow	.. ..	13½

9TH EVENT. 3RD HEAT. Start, 1.10 p.m.

			YARDS.
9.	E. W. Harris, red	.. ..	8
10.	E. Mitchell, green	.. ..	10½
11.	J. H. Jukes, black	.. ..	13½
12.	W. E. Besanko, yellow	.. ..	13½

10TH EVENT. 4TH HEAT. Start, 1.15 p.m.

			YARDS.
13.	J. J. Collins, red	.. ..	8
14.	A. James, green	.. ..	10½
15.	A. F. Pressell, black	.. ..	12
16.	J. E. Cairns, yellow	.. ..	13½

11TH EVENT. 5TH HEAT. Start, 1.20 p.m.

			YARDS.
17.	A. Heppner, red	.. ..	8½
18.	F. Dunning, green	.. ..	9
19.	H. M. Foote, black	.. ..	10
20.	W. A. Bailey, yellow	.. ..	13½

12TH EVENT. 6TH HEAT. Start, 1.25 p.m.

			YARDS.
21.	E. R. Rossbotham, red	.. ..	9
22.	E. J. Storey, green	.. ..	11
23.	A. J. Jamieson, black	.. ..	12½
24.	F. Wain, yellow	.. ..	13½

13TH EVENT. 7TH HEAT. Start, 1.30 p.m.

			YARDS.
25.	D. M'Donald, red	.. ..	9
26.	W. H. Longwood, green	.. ..	11
27.	A. Moore, black	.. ..	11½
28.	V. A. Patrick, yellow	.. ..	13½

14TH EVENT. 8TH HEAT. Start, 1.35 p.m.

				YARDS.
29.	J. Heagney, red	..	..	9
30.	J. J. Kenny, green	..	..	11
31.	C. Westcott, black	..	..	11½
32.	J. Rossbotham, yellow	..	..	12

15TH EVENT. 9TH HEAT. Start, 1.40 p.m.

				YARDS.
33.	F. Franks, red	..	..	9
34.	G. Stuckey, green	..	..	11
35.	J. Scales, black	..	..	11½
36.	J. R. Nichols, yellow	..	..	12½

16TH EVENT. 10TH HEAT. Start, 1.45 p.m.

				YARDS.
37.	J. Marsh, red	..	..	1
38.	A. J. Shannon, green	..	..	11
39.	J. Cullen, black	..	..	12½
40.	W. W. Stuckey, yellow	..	..	13½

17TH EVENT. 11TH HEAT. Start, 1.50 p.m.

				YARDS.
41.	A. E. M'Farlane, red	..	..	8
42.	J. T. Vanderstool, green	..	..	11
43.	J. J. Hogan, black	..	..	11½
44.	J. C. Hawthorne, yellow	..	..	12½

18TH EVENT. 12TH HEAT. Start, 1.55 p.m.

				YARDS.
45.	G. K. Conn, red	..	..	9
46.	J. H. Soderstrom, green	..	..	11½
47.	J. Cooper, black	..	..	12½
48.	J. Ison, yellow	..	..	12½

First in each Heat in Second Round.

HANDICAP OBSTACLE RACE (open to all).

Over and through such obstacles as the Committee may direct; no net work. 1st prize, 6 sovs.; 2nd prize, 3 sovs.; 3rd prize, 1 sov. Entrance fee, 2s. 6d. No spikes allowed.

19TH EVENT. 1ST HEAT. Start 2 p.m.

				YARDS.
1.	A. Beyer	..	..	20
2.	A. E. Nicholson	..	..	25
3.	J. Dawson	..	..	30
4.	W. G. Newgreen	..	..	30
5.	E. R. J. Peters	..	..	30
6.	J. M'Shane..	..	..	35

20TH EVENT. 2ND HEAT. Start, 2.10 p.m.

7.	P. M. Bloxham	..	..	..	Scratch
					YARDS.
8.	J. Marsh	..	..	..	15
9.	J. Beyer	..	..	..	20
10.	J. Lynch	..	..	..	22
11.	E. Adams	..	..	..	30
12.	R. C. Williams	..	..	..	35

First and Second in each Heat in Final.

ONE MILE HANDICAP BICYCLE RACE.

1st prize, 15 sovs.; 2nd prize, 5 sovs.; 3rd prize, 2 sovs. Entrance fee, 2s. 6d. Acceptance, 2s. 6d.

21ST EVENT. 1ST HEAT. Start, 2.20 p.m

1.	W. Martin, red, white, and blue	..	..	..	scratch
					YARDS.
2.	D. Walker, black, blue sleeves and cap	..	..	..	20
3.	G. R. Broadbent, red, yellow sleeves, black cap	..	..	..	45
4.	H. B. James, black, brown sash and cap	..	..	..	65
5.	F. P. Ridley	..	..	..	90
6.	G. W. Davis, red, yellow sleeves, grey cap	..	..	..	100
7.	H. Sharwood, blue, white spots, yellow cap	..	..	..	110
8.	J. A. Johnstone, blue, brown sash	..	..	..	120
9.	G. F. Smithwick, green, yellow sash, green cap	..	..	..	140

22ND EVENT. 2ND HEAT. Start, 2.30 p.m.

10.	A. W. Harris, white	..	..	..	scratch
					YARDS.
11.	E. Payne, pink, green sleeves	..	..	..	20
12.	J. C. Fitzgerald, red, yellow, red cap	..	..	..	50
13.	C. I. Rice, black, green sash, yellow cap	..	..	..	65
14.	W. Hickox, brown, blue sash, white cap	..	..	..	95
15.	G. W. Beveridge	..	..	..	105
16.	J. Herd, red, yellow sleeves, white cap	..	..	..	110
17.	C. W. Cowan, black, white sash, black cap	..	..	..	125
18.	R. Hoddle, red, black hoops, red cap	..	..	..	145

23RD EVENT. 3RD HEAT. Start, 2.40 p.m.

19.	J. Megson, white, black sash	..	..	..	Scratch
					YARDS.
20.	R. W. Lewis, blue, yellow hoops and sleeves	..	..	..	20
21.	J. T. Kuhle, red, white sash and cap	..	..	..	50
22.	W. H. Snell, brown, blue sash, black cap	..	..	..	80

	YARDS.
23. R. H. M'Kenzie, red, black sash, white cap ..	95
24. F. E. Fontaine, white, yellow sleeves, red cap	105
25. A. E. Shawbrooke, brown, black sleeves and cap	115
26. A. M. Darbyshire, black, white hoops, white sleeves, red cap	130

24TH EVENT. 4TH HEAT. Start, 2.50 p.m.

	YARDS.
27. J. W. Parsons, black, white sleeves ..	15
28. C. Porta, white, red sash	30
29. A. H. Clinton, white, black sleeves and cap ..	55
30. A. W. Hill, white, green sleeves, grey cap ..	80
31. R. Taylor	90
32. J. F. Good, black, yellow sleeves, red cap ..	95
33. A. T. Brown, brown, yellow sleeves, red cap ..	105
34. J. T. Scott, black, brown sleeves, white cap ..	115
35. A. B. Harrison, black jacket, red cap ..	130

25TH EVENT. 5TH HEAT. Start, 3 p.m.

	YARDS.
36. K. Lewis	20
37. M. J. M'Lean, white, blue sash, red cap ..	40
38. C. Greenwood, brown, yellow sleeves ..	55
39. J. T. Dallimore, blue, black sash, blue cap ..	85
40. J. W. Miller, white, red hoops and cap ..	95
41. W. Stevens, red, black sleeves, yellow cap ..	110
42. J. Hogan, black, green sash and cap ..	120
43. A. C. Walker, black, blue sleeves, white cap ..	135
44. P. J. Basto, white, grey sleeves, red cap ..	150

26TH EVENT. 6TH HEAT. Start, 3.10 p.m.

	YARDS.
45. H. J. Pither	20
46. L. B. Scharp, white, yellow sleeves, white cap	45
47. J. Gargurevich, yellow, green cap ..	60
48. N. Matterson, white, red sleeves ..	90
49. A. S. Poole, white, green sash, black cap ..	100
50. R. Fraser, red, grey sash and cap ..	110
51. A. C. Roeszler, blue, white sash, blue cap ..	120
52. W. J. Blundell, white and gold, gold cap ..	135
53. J. Lynch, green, white sleeves ..	150

First and Second in each Heat in Final.

HANDICAP HURDLE RACE, 200 YARDS, OVER 10 HURDLES.
1st prize, 6 sovs.; 2nd prize, 3 sovs.; third prize, 1 sov. Entrance
fee, 2s 6d. Acceptance, 1s.

27TH EVENT. 1ST HEAT. Start at 3.15 p.m.

1.	A. W. Doxey	..	..	..	Scratch
					YARDS
2.	J. Heagney	..	..	..	8
3.	A. Moore	..	..	..	12
4.	J. Crotty	..	..	..	14
5.	A. J. Jamieson	..	..	..	15
6.	A. F. Pressell	..	..	..	15

28TH EVENT. 2ND HEAT. Start at 3.25 p.m.

					YARDS.
7.	E. R. Rossbotham	..	..	..	4
8.	T. O'Callaghan	..	..	..	13
9.	J. J. Kenny	..	..	..	15
10.	G. Ward	..	..	..	16
11.	E. J. Sullivan	..	..	..	16
12.	T. Gawned	..	..	..	17
13.	W. Pietsch	..	..	..	18

29TH EVENT. 3RD HEAT. Start at 3.35 p.m.

					YARDS.
14.	J. Marsh	..	..	..	9
15.	A. E. Vendy	..	..	..	14
16.	H. Burley	..	..	..	15
17.	J. Rossbotham	..	..	..	15
18.	P. C. Kearney	..	..	..	17
19.	D. Clinnick	..	..	..	18
20.	J. W. Moloney	..	..	..	18

First and Second in each Heat in Final.

30TH EVENT. FINAL HEAT OBSTACLE RACE. Start, 3.45 p.m.

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ONE AND A HALF MILES HANDICAP 2ND AND 3RD CLASS BICYCLE RACE.

1st prize, 10 sovs.; 2nd prize, 4 sovs.; 3rd prize, 1 sov. Entrance fee, 2s. 6d. Acceptance, 1s.

31ST EVENT. 1ST HEAT. Start at 3.55 p.m.

1.	J. B. Gargurevich, yellow, green cap	..	..	..	scratch
					YARDS.
2.	G. Carpenter, grey, red cap	..	..	..	25
3.	N. Matterson, white, red sleeves	..	..	..	40

		YARDS.
4.	R. Taylor	40
5	G. W. Revell, black, yellow sash and cap ..	60
6.	G. W. Beveridge	65
7.	H. Sharwood, blue, white spots, yellow cap ..	75
8.	J. Hogan, black, green sash and cap..	90
9.	T. S. Finnigan, all white	100
10.	A. M. Darbyshire, black, white hoops, white sleeves, red cap	110

32ND EVENT. 2ND HEAT. Start at 4.5 p.m.

		YARDS.
11.	W. H. March, white, brown sleeves, blue cap scratch	
12.	W. H. Snell, brown, blue sash, black cap ..	30
13.	F. P. Ridley	55
14.	J. W. Miller, white, red hoops and cap ..	60
15.	R. Fraser, red, grey sash and cap ..	75
16.	J. E. Clinton, white, black sleeves, yellow cap	85
17.	F. B. Nolan, old gold, pink sleeves, pink stripe	90
18.	H. H. Beck, black, yellow sleeves, green cap..	100
19.	W. J. Blundell, white and gold, gold cap ..	110
20.	D. M'Donald	120

33RD EVENT. 3RD HEAT. Start at 4.15 p.m.

		YARDS.
21.	J. A. Munro, black and yellow stripes ..	—
22.	C. Turner, grey, red sleeves and cap..	5
23.	J. T. Dallimore, blue, black sash, blue cap ..	35
24.	R. H. M'Kenzie, red, black sash, white cap ..	55
25.	A. T. Browne	65
26.	J. Herd, red yellow sleeves, white cap ..	75
27.	O. F. Petersen, green, white sash, brown cap..	85
28.	C. O. Sherwood, blue, black sash ..	90
29.	T. Walsh, black, yellow sash and cap ..	100
30.	A. C. Walker, black, blue sleeves, white cap ..	115

34TH EVENT. 4TH HEAT. Start at 4.25 p.m.

		YARDS.
31.	A. E. Shawbrooke, brown, black sleeves and cap	85
32.	F. A. Moore, blue, brown sleeves, yellow cap..	95
33.	C. E. Bowen, black, red sash, yellow cap ..	95
34.	A. C. Windsor, black, grey sash, grey cap ..	105
35.	S. M'Kinnon, black, yellow sleeves, blue cap..	120
36.	G. F. Smithwick, green, yellow sash, green cap	120
37.	D. Kelly, black, yellow cap.. ..	125
38.	W. F. Moss, brown, blue cap ..	130
39.	S. A. King, black, blue sleeves, blue cap ..	135
40.	J. Fraser, red, brown sleeves, yellow cap ..	155

35TH EVENT. 5TH HEAT. Start at 4.35 p.m.

	YARDS.
41. F. A. Taylor, white, yellow sleeves, grey cap ..	90
42. A. C. Roeszler, blue, white sash, blue cap ..	95
43. L. Barker, black, white sash, red cap ..	95
44. J. Marshall, black, red sash and cap ..	105
45. O. Seiper, grey, black sleeves, red cap ..	120
46. J. R. Dorney, light blue, black sash, blue cap	120
47. R. Hoddle, red, black hoops, red cap ..	125
48. A. Hogan, white, black hoops, white cap ..	130
49. H. W. Johnstone, white, brown sash, blue cap	135

First and Second in each Heat in Final.

36TH EVENT. FINAL HEAT, HANDICAP HURDLE RACE. Start at 4.45 p.m.

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ONE MILE HANDICAP FLAT RACE. (Open to all.)

First prize, 15 sovs.; 2nd prize, 5 sovs.; 3rd prize, 1 sov. Entrance fee, 4s.; acceptance, 1s.

37TH EVENT. 1ST HEAT. Start at 4.55 p.m.

	YARDS.
1. G. A. Bailey	15
2. B O'Callaghan	30
3. J. James	75
4. W. G. Crawford	95
5. J. C. Fay	110
6. J. W. Connor	110
7. W. Couch	110
8. H. Moore	120
9. D. Wheeler	120
10. A. J. M'Intyre	125
11. W. H. Schober	125
12. G. E. Siddall	130

38TH EVENT. 2ND HEAT. Start at 5.5 p.m.

					YARDS.
13.	T. Sutton ..	..	..	..	10
14.	A. W. Hall ..	..	..	..	25
15.	J. F. Lannon ..	..	..	..	42
16.	W. M'Rae ..	..	..	..	50
17.	A. Smith ..	..	..	..	60
18.	R. Keating ..	..	..	..	60
19.	J. Farrell ..	..	..	..	70
20.	J. Condor ..	..	..	..	75
21.	J. Egan ..	..	..	..	80
22.	J. Moroney ..	..	..	..	90
23.	E. R. Fleming ..	..	..	..	95
24.	W. H. Massey ..	..	..	..	100
25.	C. Burke ..	..	..	..	120

39TH EVENT. 3RD HEAT. Start at 5.15 p.m.

					YARDS.
26.	H. Hopper ..	..	..	..	10
27.	J. G. Cossan ..	..	..	..	35
28.	A. Hansen ..	..	..	..	45
29.	F. Lyons ..	..	..	..	50
30.	M. Johnson ..	..	..	..	60
31.	E. W. Davey ..	..	..	..	80
32.	W. J. Brady ..	..	..	..	100
33.	E. Whorlow ..	..	..	..	120
34.	T. H. Graco ..	..	..	..	125
35.	D. Allan ..	..	..	..	125
36.	W. M'Speerin ..	..	..	..	125
37.	J. J. Manning ..	..	..	..	130
38.	R. Bauers ..	..	..	..	130

40TH EVENT. 4TH HEAT. Start at 5.25 p.m.

					YARDS.
39.	J. J. O'Loughlin ..	..	..	..	20
40.	S. J. Jackson ..	..	..	..	40
41.	W. O'Callaghan ..	..	..	..	45
42.	E. R. J Peters ..	..	..	..	60
43.	A. Fosse ..	..	..	..	100
44.	P. J. O'Leary ..	..	..	..	110
45.	W. Allwood ..	..	..	..	120
46.	G. A. Nicholson ..	..	..	..	120
47.	W. M'Allister ..	..	..	..	120
48.	G. Ward ..	..	..	..	125
49.	J. Catmull ..	..	..	..	125
50.	T. Curtis ..	..	..	..	125
51.	W. Carolin ..	..	..	..	125
52.	H. Cartledge ..	..	..	..	125
53.	S. J. Truran ..	..	..	..	130
54.	C. Pritchard ..	..	..	..	130

First, Second, and Third in each Heat in Final

41ST EVENT. FINAL HEAT, ONE AND A HALF MILE SECOND AND THIRD CLASS BICYCLE RACE. Start at 7.15 p.m.

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42ND EVENT. FINAL HEAT, HALF-MILE HANDICAP. Start at 7.30 p.m.

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43RD EVENT. FINAL HEAT, ONE MILE HANDICAP BICYCLE RACE. Start at 7.45 p.m.

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SECOND ROUND, SHEFFIELD HANDICAP.

44TH EVENT. FIRST HEAT. Start, 8 p.m.

1.	Red.
2.	Green.
3.	.....	Black.

45TH EVENT. SECOND HEAT. START, 8.5 p.m.

4.	.....	Red.
5.	.....	Green.
6.	.....	Black.

46TH EVENT. THIRD HEAT. Start, 8.10 p.m.

7.	.....	Red.
8.	.....	Green.
9.	.....	Black.

47TH EVENT. FOURTH HEAT. Start 8.15. p.m.

10.	.....	Red.
11.	.....	Green.
12.	.....	Black.

First in each Heat in Final.

EIGHT HOURS' WHEEL RACE. TWO MILES HANDICAP.

1st prize, 50 sovs.; 2nd prize, 20 sovs.; 3rd prize, 5 sovs. Entrance fee, 5s. Acceptance, 2s. 6d.

48TH EVENT. 1ST HEAT. Start at 8 30. p.m.

1.	W. Martin red, white, and blue	..	..	scratch.
				YARDS.
2.	K. Lewis .. .. .	..	..	30
3.	E. Payne, pink, green sleeves	..	..	35
4.	J. Carpenter, brown, white sleeves, blue cap	..	..	85
5.	A. H. Clinton, white, black sleeves and cap	..	..	100
6.	C. Greenwood, brown, yellow sleeves	..	..	120
7.	A. W. Hill, white, green sleeves, grey cap	..	..	150
8.	A. Calder, blue, grey sleeves, red cap	..	..	180
9.	J. W. Miller, white, red hoops and cap	..	..	190
10.	J. A. Cochrane .. .. .	..	..	200
11.	R. Fraser, red, grey sash and cap	..	..	210
12.	H. Wannemacher, all black	..	..	240

49TH EVENT. 2ND HEAT. Start at 8.45 p.m.

13.	A. W. Harris, white	..	..	scratch.
				YARDS.
14.	D. J. Walker, black, blue sleeves and cap	..	..	30
15.	C. Porta, white, red sash	..	..	45
16.	G. R. Broadbent, red, yellow sleeves, black cap	..	..	90
17.	W. H. March, white, brown sleeves, blue cap	..	..	110
18.	H. B. James, black, brown sash and cap	..	..	125
19.	J. T. Dallimore, blue, black sash, blue cap	..	..	160
20.	J. F. Good, black, yellow sleeves and cap	..	..	180
21.	A. T. Browne .. .. .	..	..	200
22.	H. Sharwood, blue, white spots, yellow cap	..	..	210
23.	C. O. Sherwood, blue, black sash	..	..	220
24.	L. Barker, black, white sash, red cap	..	..	240

50TH EVENT. 3RD HEAT. Start at 9 p.m.

				YARDS.
25.	J. W. Parsons, black, white sleeves	..	..	20
26.	H. J. Pither .. .. .	..	..	30
27.	M. J. M'Lean, white, blue sash, red cap	..	..	75
28.	J. T. Kuhle, red, white sash and cap	..	..	90
29.	J. B. Gargureveich, yellow, green cap	..	..	120
30.	C. Turner, grey, red sleeves and cap..	..	..	125
31.	N. Matterson, white, red sleeves	..	..	170
32.	F. P. Ridley .. .. .	..	..	180
33.	G. W. Beveridge .. .. .	..	..	200
34.	J. E. Clinton, white, black sleeves, yellow cap	..	..	220
35.	W. Collins, white, green sash, blue cap	..	..	230
36.	W. W. G. Leech, black, brown sash, yellow cap	..	..	240

51ST EVENT. 4TH HEAT. Start at 9 15 p.m.

	YARDS.
37. J. Megson, white, black sash	20
38. R. W. Lewis, blue, yellow hoops and sleeves ..	35
39. L. B. Scharp, white, yellow sleeves, white cap	80
40. J. C. Fitzgerald	95
41. C. I. Rice, black, green sash, yellow cap ..	120
42. G. Carpenter, grey, red cap	145
43. R. Taylor	170
44. R. H. M'Kenzie, red, black sash, white cap ..	180
45. G. W. Davis, red, yellow sleeves, grey cap ..	190
46. F. E. Fontaine, white, yellow sleeves, red cap	200
47. O. F. Petersen, green, white sash, brown cap	220
48. J. Hogan, black, green sash and cap ..	230
49. C. E. Bowen, black, red sash, yellow cap ..	240

52ND EVENT. 5TH HEAT. Start at 9.30 p.m.

	YARDS.
50. W. Hickox, brown, blue sash, white cap ..	180
51. G. W. Revell, black, yellow sash and cap ..	190
52. W. Stevens, red, black sleeves, yellow cap ..	210
53. A. E. Shawbrooke, brown, black sl'ves and cap	220
54. F. B. Nolan, old gold, pink sleeves, pink stripe	230
55. A. C. Windsor, black, grey sash, grey cap ..	250
56. A. B. Harrison, black, red cap	250
57. W. J. Blundell, white and gold, gold cap ..	260
58. G. F. Smithwick, green, yellow sash, green cap	270
59. R. Hoddle, red and black hoops, red cap ..	280
60. S. A. King, black, blue sleeves, blue cap ..	290
61. J. Basto, white, grey sleeves and red cap ..	290
62. J. Fraser, red, brown sleeves, yellow cap ..	320

First and Second in each Heat in Final.

53RD EVENT. FINAL HEAT, SHEFFIELD HANDICAP. Start at 9.45 p.m.

1.	Red.
2.	Green.
3.	Black.
4.	Yellow.

54TH EVENT. FINAL HEAT, ONE MILE HANDICAP

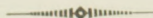
FLAT RACE. Start at 9.55 p.m.

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55TH EVENT. FINAL HEAT, EIGHT HOURS' WHEEL RACE, two miles. Start at 10.15. p.m.

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CONDITIONS.

Competitors must be on their marks by the Second Time of Bell Ringing. Each Event will be started by report of Pistol. Snap cap no start.

A Bell will be rung prior to each Event.

All Disputes must be referred to the Committee, whose decision shall be final, and not subject to any action at Law.

All Protests must be lodged with the Secretary within Fifteen Minutes after the Heat or Event, with a fee of 10s., which shall be forfeited should the Protest be considered frivolous by the Committee.

Any Competitor stepping over his line shall be put back one yard; second offence, two yards; third offence, disqualification.

Any Competitor shall be prepared to sign a statutory declaration as to true and correct performances when called upon by the Sports Committee.

The above Conditions will be strictly adhered to. No one will be allowed inside the running ground, except the Sports Committee and members of the Press.

The Rules of the Victorian Athletic League will be strictly adhered to in connection with all Foot racing Events.

P.S.—In the Bicycling Events, Rules of the Victorian League of Wheelmen will be strictly adhered to.



JOHN DE GRUCHY,

Sec. Sports Committee,

TRADES' HALL CARLTON.

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE,

LATROBE STREET, MELBOURNE.

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Manual Training 11 years.

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F. A. CAMPBELL,

Secretary and Director.

"MARK TWAIN"
ON
MARCUS CLARKE.

LECTURE, MELBOURNE, OCT., 1895.

"I not only regret, but feel surprised that the 'Selected Works' of Australia's greatest literary genius—a genius such as you will not see again for many a long year—should be out of print. Through the courtesy of his widow I obtained a copy of the work, after failing to buy one anywhere. And such a work, such reading, such power. It was just the sort of reading to banish from one's thoughts pain such as I have been suffering. The subjects so interesting, and their treatment so brilliant and so fascinating. No works of such a man should be left unpublished. It is the *duty* of Australians to assist the widow of so great a writer in publishing his works. I may tell you that we think a deal more of Marcus Clarke in our country than I am sorry to think you do here." (Applause.)

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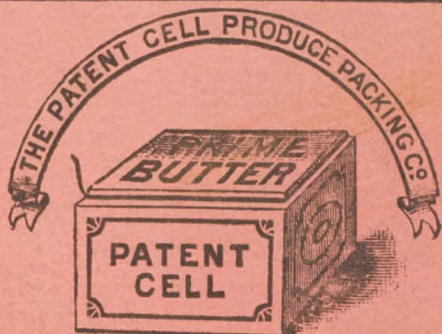
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