





# VOICE OF INDUSTRY.

why; but the testimony that I gave them, said being unable to work from ill health, the only thing worthy of mention in that part of the testimony. The report says that I had taught every school four winters and it had injured my health. I said in reply to a question put by the Chairman, "would the operatives spend the time, if it should be given them, in the cultivation of their minds?" I stated that I believed the most of them would. A reason was called for—to which the reason assigned was—that I had very often written letters for those who could not write, and had taken some few girls to my own sleeping apartment and instructed them in the simplest branches of education, and then let them practice writing, so that without any compensation except that of improving that unfortunate class of which I was a member." This was termed teaching school *four years*—and if that be true definition, I have not yet had a vacation, nor do I hope for one, until I can do nothing to improve the condition of those with whom I live at least.

There are many other things that I would like to add, but my sheet is nearly full. You ask me if all the ladies who appeared as witnesses, were present at the time the resolutions relative to the report were adopted? I answer they were; all with one exception presented a resolution; a copy of which published in the "Boston Mechanic" you have received. The lady who did not present a resolution, voted for the adoption of those presented, and expressed her entire approbation of them.

You will excuse the length of this letter; with the assurance that I have strong reasons to believe that our petition referred to the next Legislature, (or the one about to commence, its session,) will have a special hearing from the fact that all the "Corporation Mechanics" has been labelled and directed to Lowell.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

*Patriot*, Jan. 14, 1846.

**Fairfax Young.**—Since writing to you last, I have had an opportunity of increasing the list of subscribers considerably. One of the difficulties of introducing our paper into public houses, is that mechanics never call there. Landlords say, when called on to take papers of this class, they would have paper to suit speculative individuals; even where the custom is the greatest from the workingmen, it is important that our paper should be taken in public houses and reading rooms, that it may become known; consequently it becomes the duty of our friends to call for such papers when travelling, and above all, let the laboring man join a reading room or institute except on condition that one paper at least of this class is taken. One circumstance noticed at Springfield, I forgot to mention in my last, which was, that four deacons are engaged in making swords, pistols, guns, carbines and cutlasses; this to my mind is a bloody business for the mech. and lawy followers of their Lord and Master; nevertheless the kingdom of heaven cometh on earth, and men live more consistent with their profession.

No man can do more to increase the circulation of the *Voice of Industry* in R. I., than George Merritt of Pawtucket, formerly of Providence. He is an abolitionist of the Garrison school, differing from most of that stamp in one important particular, he is willing to do something practically for the northern laborer, as well as the southern slave. Mr. Merritt & Co. now keep a grocery store in Pawtucket in a store formerly occupied by D. —. If there is a store in P. deserving the patronage of the operatives, it is that of Messrs. Merritt & Co. They will continue to act as agents, and will no doubt increase the circulation, and usefulness in this place.

Woodstock proved a hard field to operate in; partly in consequence of the trouble and expense of the last few years, and other papers getting the start of us. Cassius M. Clay has 50 subscribers there. At Uxbridge our list is much larger, but I was told, the operatives are afraid of the corporation so much, that when one of our friends attempted to deliver a lecture, no one could be found to act as chairman. Mr. —, Salisbury, our agent in this village, is a gentleman of a philanthropist of the first water; with the assistance of Mr. Buzzell, he will furnish us with a good list. Mr. S. will probably attend the convention and furnish some valuable information.

**Resolved.** That we are highly indignant at the springing servility to corporate monopolies manifested by said committee in their report; as in that document the most important facts elicited from witnesses relative to the abuses and evils of the factory system are withheld; truth violated, and the whole shaped to please their aristocratic constituents. May never again the interests of the oppressed, down-trodden laboring class be committed to their legislation.

The following by Miss S. G. BAGLEY.—  
**Resolved.** That this Association, in their next petition to the Legislature, ask them to exert to the operatives the same protection they have given to subjects, and our condition will be greatly improved.

**Resolved.** That the Special Committee are guilty of the grossest dishonesty in withholding from this Legislature all the most important facts in the defense made by our delegates; and that we regard them as mere corporate machines; and if there are any honorable exceptions they are entitled only to the same sympathy extended to a poor tray, who was chafed out for being found in bad company.

One by Miss A. SKINNER.—  
**Resolved.** That if the Representatives of the State of Massachusetts have no higher aim than that of competing with the pauper labor of Europe, and for that reason refuse to grant the prayer of the petitioners, they are unworthy a seat in the halls of legislation.

**Resolved.** That "intelligent" and shrewd as the Committee have styled the laborers of Lowell, it would bely become us to overlook prominent features in the character of the report as the false coloring and sordid perversions of truth which they have so indelibly stamped on its pages as to merit our united disapprobation.

**Resolved.** That the Committee who made up the report acted unfairly and ungenerously, leaving out those points which bear with far on the subject, and supplying their own compositions, so as to invite the witnesses who appeared before them in unavoidable falsehood, asserting what they never said and never could have thought of saying.

The above letter and resolutions, tell their own tale. A man is before a Committee of the Legislature, and by some juggling you are Chairman of that Committee—your question and requestion the operatives until every honest person present was disgusted with their ignorance and impudence—and when the operatives wish to ask the man on his oath a

question, You, yes you, William, "looked pale," and raved out, "do you wish to implicate the master?" But it was unanswered, and the answer audience was not willing to leave the house he had been in "shock'd"—but why was he shocked?—it was his school-mastery not brought before that Committee? And why was the whole facts of that case not given in your report?

William said J. C. Cluer held opinions that would bid him to speak the truth; I will leave the public to judge from the above and other evidences that I will lay before them from time to time, what claims you have to the character of a man of truth. I presume this is sufficient for you at present. I have given facts lying on my table that shall be attended to at the next.

William said I am a mere remnant of a "Scotchman"; I am sorry the same country gave birth to us both. But Scudhill had a "Monteith," who betrayed a "Walpole," and judging from your "four years public life" you have all the bad disposition of Monteith, without the ability to carry it out.

For the present, I conclude by daring you to meet me and those operatives you have insulted, in the City Hall, or any other public place, and we will prove you to be the very "Corporation" that ever disgraced the Legislature of Massachusetts.

I am for the right, JOHN C. CLUER.

Lowell, January 18, 1846.

William, "looked pale" for a long time; his style is peculiar to himself; he spoke nearly two hours, and when he closed, Notice was given that Mr. Cluer would speak again on Thursday evening at the Trinitarian Vestry, as there was to be a Temperance Lecture at the Town Hall, at the close of the Temperance meeting.

On Tuesday, Mr. Cluer visited the Stone Mill with a friend, and was introduced to the Agent as an English Manufacturer, as he is

who invited him to look about the mill as much as he pleased, as he was busy. Mr. Cluer did as he had leave to do, and asked one

of two of the hands how many hours they worked, and how much they could make per week—and which Agent did not like it at all, after he found out who Mr. Cluer was, and told some of the girls that he only gave leave to look at the work, but did not give him leave to speak to the help. Ha, wonder he does not put gates over the doors and windows and carry their load to them. But this did not prevent their going to hear Mr. Cluer that night, and "bless their little hearts" as Cluer said; they turned out, about twenty of them and went, although it was a very bad night, half a mile to hear him—and when he presented his plans to them, they spoke out and voted for them in right good earnest.

And now say if Miss Bagley or some one of the Society in Lowell, will come up

with Mr. Cluer next time he comes, they will form Society. Will they come?

And now say if Mr. Agent has concluded to dock half an hour in the morning, so that they do not go to work pöv, till half past six instead of six, and they do not go out at 5 o'clock on Saturday mornings as they did before. These are children at work, several of them under 10 years of age, just think of it! at work from six in the morning until eight at night! And how is it these things are not, and if any one dare to speak against them, he is called by those professing to be Christians, infidels, and hypocrites.

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A solo solo was trampled on by strength, but not by weight;

Yield, crook'd soul thy tears may flow

'Till mock-beans melt steel steel;

A sigh in vain the breast may throw,

Worth least heart to feel;

Naked partial death to claim;

Congred with thine woes;

Light no soul with fair's pure grace;

Heart's heat of a ston's

Asahel Bain, Mass.

political parties waged war upon us, when battling for hours or against reduction of wages in Philadelphia, and invariably they must and will abet capital in oppressing labor, until the abler mind becomes so elevated, that he reads the newspaper, and contributes to its support as the first great instrument of defense against injustice and oppression, and the moral, social and political instructor of himself and family. If every farmer, mechanic, artizan, &c. open at vs, it will be a loss to our

country subsidized and paid for but one copy of a paper devoted to their instruction and defense against Capital's increasing aggressions, there needs to be no strife nor stands out of trade or factories. The business of wealth, production and its just distribution would go on harmoniously, because 'twould then be directed by enlightened public opinion for the public good. Now, the plunder and despoiler, Capital, destroys its ergot, Useful Labor. Under the operation of correct or sound political science, the wealth producer necessarily must become possessor of his labor's products; and as society is constituted, I believe the means to progress, in the requiring of such invaluable information will be best promoted or made attainable through organization of National Reform Associations, Trade or Industrial Associations; and other benevolent societies with libraries attached; because to sum up all human wrong doing, "Ignorance is the evil—Knowledge the remedy."

JOHN FEAR.

WEALTH AND WORTH.

BY M. C. PRIEST.

We see the smile, the scornful smile,

On haughty 'twas gathering,

But pride made me mark the white—

A noble heart was withering;

I too have seen the evil eyes,

Which shake no mörner's sorrow;

And head amid you crowd a sigh;

No hypocrite could borrow;

And would't thou stern corporer, fear?

What gave that right his birth?

A solo solo was trampled on

By strength, but not by weight;

Yield, crook'd soul thy tears may flow

'Till mock-beans melt steel steel;

A sigh in vain the breast may throw,

Worth least heart to feel;

Naked partial death to claim;

Congred with thine woes;

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AN IMPOSTER.

We learn, that there is located on Gorham St, near the Catholic Church, a young Miss, dubbed the "Wonder Girl," upon the shrille outside. This so called "wonder girl," by some means or other, (miraculous we suppose) is in possession of a "magic stone," through which she professes to disclose all the hidden secrets of the future, and portray with uncanny wisdom the coming wealth or woe, of all who are foolish enough to pay her fee for the revelation.

We understand that the "magic stone" refers to the Lowell girls, that they will be married in a very short time—get every piece of news men for, but who can enjoy an unusual degree of domestic happiness during a long life. We hope it is true, but advise them to keep the half to expend for "fixers," instead of giving it to this travelling hussy, who knows as little about their future destiny, as she cares about their present good.

In copying an excellent article from Young America, in our last, our compositor made a sad "top" in one place which very much changed the sense. It should have read as follows:

It will also be seen that, owing to the law of trade just stated, the laboring classes of every description are interested in the welfare of each trade or branch, because those who are doing the best will constantly be sought by those which are depressed; in other words, that labor will, like water, find its level, and that too, in spite of State lines, rivers, or even seas. All the laboring classes, therefore, are interested, morally and economically, in establishing the Ten Hour System in factories, especially, and everywhere else where it is paid by the day.

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At the quarterly meeting of the Industrial Reform Association of Lowell, held at their Reading Room, Monday evening, Jan. 4th, the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing quarter.

John S. Fletcher, President; Joel Hatch, 1st Vice Pres.; J. B. Leavitt, 2nd Vice; John Sawtell, Secretary; John Simpson, Treasurer.

The above officers constitute the executive committee of the association.

JOHN SAWTELL, Sec.

TEN HOUR PETITIONS.

Our friends, who have received petitions upon the "Ten Hour" subject, will see that they are extensively circulated, and returned to us if they can, without subjecting us to postage for the month of March.

Coningham, who killed Margaret Livingston, H. T. Young, and others, was sentenced to seven years in the State Prison. The charge of murder was withdrawn, and pleaded guilty to manslaughter.

Loring, H. T. Young, and others, were sentenced to seven years in the State Prison.

Meredith Bridge, B. F. Palmer, and others, were sentenced to seven years in the State Prison.

Pratt, E. J. G. W. Merrian, and others, were sentenced to seven years in the State Prison.

Conrad, J. A. Adcock, and others, were sentenced to seven years in the State Prison.

West Brookfield, Walter French, and others, were sentenced to seven years in the State Prison.

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PROSPECTUS

OF THE VOICE OF INDUSTRY.

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER.

ORGAN OF THE NEW ENGLAND WORKERS' UNION ASSOCIATION.

Published weekly, at 25 cents.

S. FRANCIS, Editor.

DEVOTED TO THE PROMOTION OF MORAL AND PHYSICAL

WELL-BEING.

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