

**EIGHT HOURS ANNIVERSARY.**

The Eight Hours Anniversary was celebrated on Wednesday, 21st April, in Ballarat, in a variety of ways, namely, by a grand procession, the laying of the foundation-stone of the Galloway monument, sports in the Eastern Oval, and a ball in the Alfred-hall in the evening. The committee had evidently made arrangements for a most exhaustive and impressive celebration; but the weather—that highly important factor in all outdoor affairs—set its face somewhat strongly against the movement, and marred the success of the demonstration. It was seen from an early hour in the morning that the day would be very unfavorable for the celebration, but the proceedings had progressed too far to admit of postponement, and had then to be carried out in some shape or other. Between nine and 11 o'clock the skies cleared up a little, but there was some delay in getting the procession started, and rain came on again, the concourse of spectators that had assembled to witness the event taking shelter as well as they could under the verandahs along the streets. A number of flags were displayed at prominent places in the city, imparting a little liveliness to the scene. A flag was floating from the city tower; at the site of the Galloway monument the old Scottish flag, with its lion rampant, was hoisted in company with another banner; and at the Buck's Head hotel, the principal rendezvous of the eight hours men, three banners were unfurled. One was the banner of the United Operative Masons, from which we gathered that their organisation had been instituted on 3rd November, 1855, and that the Ballarat Lodge had been established on 19th May, 1857. Another banner, of deep blue ground, with golden letters, bore the device, "Eight hours' work and eight hours' recreation." Another flag, of light blue, with gold lettering, belonging to the Carpenters' and Joiners' Eight Hours Association, stated that the association was established in 1861. Despite the very unpropitious state of the weather, a large number of persons lingered in the streets to see the procession and be present at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Galloway monument. The celebration was under the patronage of the City and Town Councils, Ballarat and Ballarat West Fire Brigades, and the members of Parliament for the district, namely, the Hon. W. C. Smith, John James, G. R. Finoham, Henry Bell, and James Russell; and accordingly by the time the procession was ready to start a large number of prominent Ballarat residents were present. Just as the procession was getting ready to start a fresh downpour of rain cleared the streets. As soon as the shower lightened, the procession, marshalled by Captain Morris, of the Ballarat Brigade, on horseback, and Captain Heunah, on foot, started from the Buck's Head hotel in the following order:—Banner of eight hours labor in front; Volunteer Brass Band, under the leadership of Mr Carvosoe, next; then the carpenters and joiners' banner, followed by the eight hours men; then the Pioneer Lodge of Oddfellows; then the City and Town Fire Brigades, the United Operative Masons' flag bringing up the rear. The procession proceeded from the Buck's Head hotel up the north side of Sturt street, and then came down the south side with the councillors, M.A.L.A., and other important personages in the rear; and on crossing to the site of the Galloway monument the procession opened and allowed the councillors, members of Parliament, reporters, &c., to pass in to where the stone was to be

laid. Here a platform was erected for the speakers, and all being then congregated in their places, Mr J. W. Graham, who had been deputed to act as chairman in the place of Mr W. Taylor (an old friend and fellow-worker of the late Mr James Galloway), who had been unable to be present on the occasion, then addressed the assemblage. He referred to the inclemency of the weather, and then proceeded to review the life and labors of James Galloway, and also referred to a bill for making eight hours a legal day's labor which had passed through the Assembly, but which had been rejected by the Legislative Council. He considered that bill the outcome of James Galloway's labors, and he hoped that during the present Parliament it would be taken up and put through the Upper House. He also remarked that the present affair was a landmark in the march of civilization. He then read the following document in reference to the movement:—"This drinking fountain was erected in commemoration of James Galloway, native of Springfield, Fifeshire, Scotland, the founder of the eight hours system of daily labor in Australia. The foundation-stone was laid by the Mayor of the City of Ballarat, in presence of the City Council, and the Mayor and Council of the Town of Ballarat East, and the president and members of the Eight Hours Association of Ballarat.—A. T. Morrison (mayor), Robert Lewis, Henry Leggo, F. M. Claxton, D. Brophy, Major W. C. Smith, J. N. Wilson, John Hickman, J. W. Gray, Council of the City of Ballarat; G. Parry, city clerk. W. Scott (mayor), J. Ferguson, J. Phillips, A. James, W. Robertson, T. Williams, W. Dunn, D. Turpie, H. Josephs, Town Council of Ballarat East; Robert Coxon Young, town clerk. Demonstration committee appointed to carry out the laying of the foundation-stone:—Henry Richmond, J. W. Graham, W. Craig, W. Evans, W. Rediv, W. B. Raddy, sen., W. J. Chadwick, J. Fulton; J. W. Mills, chairman; J. Fraser, secretary. Galloway monument building committee—John Edwards, chairman; Robt. Llewellyn, James Ballantyne, Thomas C. Atkinson; John Snelling, secretary; treasurer, W. Williams; Daniel Brown, George Scott, trustees." Mr Graham then stated that it was intended to place in the hollow under the foundation-stone, a parchment containing a description of the monument, and the date and cause of its erection; another parchment setting forth the manner of laying the foundation-stone, and by whom it was done; a copy of the report of the committee appointed by the Operative Stonemasons' Society in connection with the introduction of the eight hours system of labor in the colony of Victoria; (this report is signed by Messrs John Gratton, James Stephens, and Wm. Taylor, and it shows conclusively that James Galloway alone was the originator of the system); a list of the names of the gentlemen immediately connected with the erection of the monument, and copies of the *Star*, *Courier*, and *Evening Post*. He then introduced to Mayor Morrison, Mr Edwards, chairman of the monument works committee. All the preparations for hoisting the foundation-stone being in readiness, and the little incidental details completed, Mayor Morrison used the building implements in the usual manner, and having finished off with the mallet, declared the stone well and truly laid. The stone, we may here parenthetically remark, contains 27 cubic feet, and weighs about two tons. Cheers were then given, and the band struck up a stave of "Rule Britannia." Mayor Morrison then addressed the assemblage. He said he had been called upon to perform a very pleasing and somewhat novel duty. They

form a very pleasing and somewhat novel duty. They were met to inaugurate a ceremony to the memory of a great man, who had done much for the working classes. This movement was typical of the great social changes that were taking place in the world. He was proud to be present with the City Council to take part in honoring the memory of a man who had initiated a movement that would so materially benefit the world. It had been said that a man devoted to the service of his fellow-men was generally ill-requited; but the present movement showed that the people of Ballarat could appreciate noble services, and he trusted that the affair would be an honor to Ballarat and all concerned. The speaker proceeded to point out the benefit of short hours of labor, showing that it left an opportunity for intellectual improvement; and he also showed that the present platform was one on which all could meet in harmony. He also remarked that Victoria could in many other respects teach a lesson to older countries. Let them look at our position here compared with that of the working-men of the old countries. The speaker wound up with a well-known quotation from Shakespeare, "The good that men do, &c." Mayor Scott next addressed the meeting. He thanked the committee who had extended the invitation to the council to take part in the affair, and he also congratulated the committee on the success of the movement. He was proud that it had been left to Ballarat to take the initiative in honoring the memory of the man who had founded the eight hours system. Referring to the bill in reference to the eight hours system, he expressed a hope that it would become the law of the land. (A youth—"What time do you close?" Laughter.) The Hon. Major Smith next addressed the assemblage. He assured them it gave him great satisfaction to see the Ballarat people once more to the front to recognise a leader who had done them substantial service. In 1861 and 1862 in Parliament, he had assisted Mr Don and others in promoting the success of the eight hours system. The people of Victoria were taking the lead in all the works that artisans can do, and it was gratifying to see the people of Ballarat collecting to do honor to the founder of the eight hours system. He had had the pleasure of supporting the Eight Hours Bill, and voting for it, but he hoped, although they had been unsuccessful, that that bill, like others which had been rejected "in another place," would yet become law. But he had been able to carry his Factory Bill through both Houses, and he could not have done so had he not had at his back a large number of the people of the colony. Ballarat men had struggled nobly for that measure, and not only should the working-men struggle for their rights, but they should also see that the rights of the females in industrial establishments were fairly protected. Before his Factory Act the condition of the employees in many establishments in this colony was a disgrace to civilisation. The speaker concluded by stating that he was sure that his colleagues would do their utmost to have it enacted that eight hours be a legal day. Mr Henry Bell was the next speaker. He addressed the assemblage as a fellow-workman of theirs for twenty-six years in Ballarat. He congratulated them upon the inauguration of the eight hours system. The speaker referred to the great

antithetic influences that Galloway had to contend with, and also showed that when he himself was an apprentice he had to work from six o'clock in the morning to 7 at night. He exhorted the people to lend their assistance to the movement, and to not spend a penny in any shop that did not close at 6 o'clock. There were plenty of men at present to do the work in eight

hours without resorting to schemes. He would be happy in Parliament to do his best for the Eight Hours Bill. Cr Dunn was the next speaker. He said he was glad, as a working-man, to take part in this movement, which was one of the noblest causes ever taken up in our adopted country. If a man couldn't do a day's work in eight hours, he was not a proper hand. Cr Hickman was next called upon. He said he did not know why he was called upon, but he congratulated them on the movement. His father had been one of the first to assist in the cause, and his son would follow in his footsteps. He (the speaker) had often transgressed against the eight hours system, and had asked some of his employees to work longer hours, but he trusted that in future the eight hours system would be recognised. Cr Robertson, who was next called on, said that the matter had his earnest sympathy. It should be looked at very seriously. We now found the Chinese in Melbourne working from fourteen to eighteen hours a day, and cabinetmakers earning only from 7s to 10s per week; and we found almost every shop stocked with the articles made by Chinese labor. He wished all success to the present movement, and he trusted that when the monument would be raised it would be as efficacious as the serpent raised in the wilderness, and that everyone who looked on it would be induced to support the eight hours system. Only those who had served their apprenticeship in the home country could properly appreciate the present movement. He trusted that they would all take it to heart well, and impress it on the members of Parliament. Mr John James was next called upon. He commenced by remarking that he was unwell, and not in a mood for speaking, but in order that there should be no mistake he would say the movement had his hearty sympathy. He himself had not got the benefits of the eight hours system. He had had to work eight, twelve, and sixteen hours a day. He thoroughly concurred with some of the previous speakers that eight hours' labor in this colony was more severe than nine in the home country. He referred with great pleasure to what he had seen that morning in the papers, namely, that Mr Hickman had proposed to establish a library for his employees. The speaker concluded by pointing out that it was the duty of every one to promote education, so that the people might be intelligent, and know how to use their power properly. The collecting-bag was then sent round, and several of the gentlemen present gave donations. Mr Fincham spoke next, referring to the opposition the founder of the system had met with, and pointing out what Ballarat was doing to perpetuate his memory. He further showed that each one should do what he could to ameliorate the evils existing in the colony, and not allow life to pass away uselessly. He hoped the eight hours system would soon become one of the recognised statutory laws. Mr James Russell, who was the next speaker, commenced by remarking that the man who would not say a word in the interests of humanity should for ever hold his peace. It had been held in the old country that labor was degrading, but here we were all one fraternity of working-men, and wanted eight hours for labor, eight for recreation, and eight for sleep. The future of the colony was in the working-men's hands; let them be faithful, and the result would be their own. This concluded the oratory. The band then struck up the National Anthem, and three cheers were given, after which the procession was then re-formed, after which it proceeded to the Eastern Oval, where the sports were to be held. It was now raining smartly, and shortly afterwards there was a complete downpour. rain con-

be held. It was now raining smartly, and shortly afterwards there was a complete downpour, rain continuing for the rest of the afternoon. It was thought by many that the sports would not be carried out, but the committee and competitors went into the affair with a determination and pluck that nothing could check, and the programme was substantially carried out. The judges were Messrs Llewellyn, Muir, and Edwards; starter, Mr H. Richards. Mr D. Brown was general manager, and Mr J. Fraser was hon. secretary. The following are details of the several events as they occurred:—

Maiden Race, 440 yards—J. Marsh, 1; J. Brudensell, 2. Eight Hours Handicap, 150 yards—Learinhinan, 1; Killian, 2; Bray, 3. First Event—B. Killian, 13 points; M. Learinhinan, 9 points; R. Sharp, 5 points. Second Event, 300 yards—Killian, 1; Sharp, 2; Learinhinan, 3. Third Event, 440 yards—Killian, 1; Learinhinan, 3; R. Sharp, 3. Hurdle Race, 120 yards—J. Darcy, 1; Learinhinan, 2; R. Sharp, 3. (Second Event, 440 yards—Darcy, 1; R. Sharp, 2; Learinhinan, 3. J. Darcy, 10 points; R. Sharp, 5 points; Learinhinan, 5 points. Fireman's Race, 200 yards—H. Boughen, 1; R. Sharp, 2. Boys' Race, 440 yards—R. Baird, 1; T. Brown, 2. Tradesmen's Race, 440 yards—J. Bray, 1; J. Darcy, 2. A protest was entered by M. Learinhinan against B. Killian for running on the green; the judges gave their decision in favor of Killian. In the evening a ball in connection with the anniversary celebration was held in the Alfred-hall, when notwithstanding the very unfavorable state of the weather, about fifty couples assembled to pass a few hours in terpsichorean recreation. The building was gaily decorated with flags, and brilliantly lighted up, and the company enjoyed themselves thoroughly to the strains of Harrison's band, Mr Schrader officiating as leader of the band, and Mr Cooper as M.C. It will have been seen from the foregoing report of the celebration, that had the day been fine the affair would have been a signal success, and under the circumstances the committee of management have every reason to felicitate themselves on the admirable manner in which they had made their arrangements.